



More than 20 deer waiting to be processed hang from the walk-in cooler Monday afternoon at the Nunan Meat Market in Kirksville. The Market processed 716 pounds of meat for the "Share the Harvest" campaign during the first two days of the season, and anticipates collecting as much as one ton by next Tuesday.

Ashley Jost/Index

DEER | Area retailers and meat processors flourish during the first week of rifle season

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Missouri's deer harvest stands about 20,000 deer behind last year's 89,000 during the first few days of the open rifle season, said Benny Pryor, district supervisor for the Missouri Department of Conservation in Kirksville.

Pryor said the decrease in population is attributed to the drought.

During the past summer and the effects of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease, which is a byproduct of the drought, also caused many deer to die, he said, but EHD was no longer a concern following the first frost.

Another disease called Chronic Wasting Disease initially caused some concern for hunters, but as the number of deer the disease actually affected is in the single digits, Pryor said CWD has not proved to be a problem for hunters so far. He said the MDC has a monitoring program to keep track of the deer throughout the area where the disease was found.

Local "Share the Harvest" deer processor, the Nunan Meat Market, has experienced a large amount of success during the first week of

the season.

Pryor said the Nunan Market is the only processor in Kirksville that participates in the "Share the Harvest" program which was created by the state to pay deer meat processors to prepare donated deer meat to give to families in-need.

During the first weekend, manager Garet Nunan said the Market processed 140 deer, and while many of the deer were filling personal orders, they were able to collect 716-pounds of meat to process for the harvest program.

"You could safely say they're going to get over a ton of meat during the ten days," Nunan said. "And it all stays local, which is great."

Nunan said the Market receives a stipend amount per deer from the State for the program, but he wasn't certain about the exact amount. He said the deer processing in general is drawing revenue for the Market.

"It's a pretty good business," Nunan said. "It's a lot of work, long hours and quite a haul in a short period of time for the amount of deer that roll through here, but we like it."

PROPOSAL | University task force looks to change framework and rubric for critical thinking practices across all disciplines

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happening in a way that encourages students to take skills learned in one department and apply them in another department."

The proposed framework would specify terms to be used for a wide variety of classes in all departments during discussions and assignments about critical thinking, Alexander said. She said with the new framework all departments would use a common word, such as "context" to replace words for critical thinking that vary by department like "methodologies" or "world-views."

The common vocabulary, she said, would facilitate learning that can transfer between classes and provide students with a more self-reflective way to use critical thinking skills.

Undergraduate Council Chair Debra Cartwright said members

of the council are taking the rubric and proposal to their departments for discussion and review. She said the council will vote about the framework during the December meeting and the proposal will then move forward through the governance process.

If the proposal passes through the Council, departments will be asked to create a proposal for how they will communicate this change to students and how to reinforce the new language within classes, Cartwright said. Departments will be asked to present this proposal to the council by December 2013, she said.

She said the new framework likely will be an evolving document that can be changed and added to throughout time, and that the council periodically will review these changes. She said how the new rubric will be handled won't be de-

termined until after it goes through the governance process.

"It's very preliminary," Cartwright said. "Until we hear from the departments we won't know what the next step will be. They might want to make changes."

Alexander said the new framework and rubric proposal must be approved by both the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils, then approved by Faculty Senate and University President Troy Paino.

She said the University currently is conducting three pilot programs using the new critical thinking rubric. One pilot program is addressing the use of the critical thinking rubric with student employees of the University through their contact with other students. Alexander said the second pilot program is assessing use in accounting classes within the School of Business and the third assesses use in classes

within the School of Social and Cultural Studies, specifically with LSP and essential skills classes.

Alexander said students' performance for critical thinking categories will be assessed through the new rubric and through critical thinking tests.

Amber Johnson, task force pilot program leader, said she is one of the leaders of the pilot program within the School of Social and Cultural Studies. She said the pilot includes 20 faculty members and about 550 students.

Participating classes were divided into three testing groups, Johnson said. For one group, faculty made no changes to language or assignments. In another, faculty began using the new critical thinking vocabulary during classes. In the third group, faculty changed assignments to incorporate the new language,

as well as using the vocabulary during classes.

She said about half of the participating students will be completing pretests and posttests assessing student attitudes toward critical thinking. All students will have an assignment collected by the pilot leadership, Johnson said. That assignment will be evaluated based on the new rubric.

The pilot program will continue during the spring semester with some new faculty and courses, Johnson said.

She said, so far, feedback from participating professors has been positive and some professors have indicated a desire to extend changes to other classes.

"It's not that we're teaching something we haven't been doing before," Johnson said. "It's just making it more deliberate and making it more obvious to students."

EQUALITY | Missourians for Equality filed paperwork to put a nondiscrimination measure on the ballot for the 2014 election

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Psychology professor Sherri Palmer, who has volunteered with Missourians for Equality, said she thinks the group will be successful because they are trying to accomplish one specific goal instead of multiple, broad objectives.

One challenge the amendment will face is the part of the proposed amendment that protects trans gender people from discrimination, Malin said.

"The concept of gender identity is one that far less people are familiar with," Malin said. "There is a very heavy stigma around trans gender individuals and around the idea of gender identity, and that's proved to be quite an obstacle when trying to pass measures like ours in other states."

Smith said one important aspect of the proposed amendment is that it has a clause protecting the rights of religious institutions. Smith said this clause will, for example, protect a religious organization from hiring a someone who is gay if it violates the religious beliefs of that institution.

"You don't get to have your rights by tramping on somebody else's rights, and that goes in both directions," Smith said. "No matter how we feel about that, we can't say, 'We're giving these people their rights, and we're going to

walk all over yours."

Once the paperwork is approved by the Missouri Secretary of State's office, Malin said Missourians for Equality can start gathering signatures. Smith said unlike most political action committees, which pay a firm to gather signatures, Missourians for Equality is entirely volunteer-based.

Malin said he estimates Missourians for Equality needs 500 to 700 volunteers across the state to work three hours a month to gather signatures. In order to reach their goal, he said Missourians for Equality is reaching out to potential volunteers through social networks, conferences and organizations like the Missouri Civil Liberties Association.

Malin said he hopes all the signatures can be gathered prior to May 2014 so the governor has the option to put the amendment to a vote before Nov. 2014.

Aside from gathering signatures, Nelson said people can support Missourians for Equality by validating signatures, making a donation or hosting a fundraiser.

"What we're doing is a really powerful thing because it's really bringing the power to the people," Nelson said. "By helping us, you yourself are going to be in the middle of a civil rights movement."

KPD | Kirksville Police Department starts burglary prevention campaign

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happen this year. Sophomore Dani Eberle shares a house with five other residents and said she is taking precautions before leaving for break to help prevent a burglary.

She said they plan to lock all of their windows and doors and take expensive jewelry and technology with them.

"Our landlord lives in town and so she will swing by and make sure our doors are locked and the garage is shut," Eberle said. "She wants to make sure we didn't miss anything and that her property doesn't get damaged."

If residents have any questions about ways to make their home safer against burglary, Cordray said they can contact their landlord or the KPD.

He said he hopes anyone who stays in town will act as neighborhood watch for the residents who are gone. If a resident sees suspicious activity or returns from break and finds their home or apartment was broken into, can call KPD at 660-665-5621.



Nick Panos, Kirksville Police Department officer, places a flyer on the door of a home just off campus Wednesday afternoon. KPD distributed more than 500 flyers letting students know how to prevent being victims of burglary during Thanksgiving break.

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