

# Haunting for a cause

A local haunted house raises money for people with disabilities  
Please see page 9

## Truman State University INDEX

104 years of excellence

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<http://tmn.truman.edu/theindex>

## Walker endorsed by MSTA

BY ASHLEY JOST  
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Nate Walker announced this morning that the Missouri State Teachers Association Legislative Impact Committee endorsed him for his district three state representative candidacy, according to a press release from his campaign.

"I'm excited because it proves that teachers know from my past actions in the legislature that

I'm a strong advocate for education," Walker said. The MSTA is the largest education association across the state with more than 44,000 members, according to the press release.

"My opponent has always been endorsed by them in the past, and they chose not to this time," Walker said. Walker's opponent for the district three representative spot is Democrat Rebecca McClanahan.

Walker said he is excited about the endorsement.

He said the National Education Association, another teaching organization and competitor for MSTA, decided not to endorse either candidate during this race.

Krista Meyer, MSTA political action manager, said in a press release that Walker is "a pro-education candidate that voters can enthusiastically support."

For more information on the MSTA's endorsement, contact Walker's campaign at [friendsofnatewalker@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofnatewalker@gmail.com).



Walker

## Rep. Wyatt endorses Dine for Senate

BY ASHLEY JOST  
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Local State Rep. Zachary Wyatt, R-2, endorsed Libertarian U.S. Senatorial candidate Jonathan Dine earlier this week according to a press release from the Missouri Libertarian Party.

Wyatt said he decided to endorse Dine after looking at his plans for the state.

Dine's Libertarian ideology lends itself to what Wyatt called a more conservative fiscal responsibility, with liberal views about social issues.

During a television broadcast this summer, Wyatt spoke out about being a 'proud gay man.' He points out that Dine is the only of the three senatorial candidates who is pro-marriage equality.

"That kind of helped, but like I've always said, I'm not a one-issue voter," Wyatt said. "He wants to make sure the government is smaller and works more efficiently for the people."

Dine, who currently is working as a personal trainer in Kansas City, Mo., said Wyatt's endorsement has been an exciting opportunity for him and his campaign.

"It's exciting that he can tell I'm in favor of protecting everyone's civil and fiscal liberties," Dine said.

Dine said he hopes to be able to represent all Missouri citizens, as opposed to corporations, which is something he hopes Wyatt's approximate



Wyatt



Dine



Ashley Jost/Index

Republican gubernatorial candidate Dave Spence visited Kirksville Tuesday night, speaking to the Adair County Republican Club to speak to the College Republicans.

## Spence visits city and campus

Republican governor candidate talked with area Republicans Tuesday night

BY ASHLEY JOST  
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Republican gubernatorial candidate Dave Spence visited Kirksville Tuesday night, speaking to the

Adair County Republican Club and Truman State's College Republicans during the late afternoon.

During his speech to both groups, Spence emphasized his interest in bringing his business-oriented background to the governor's office to try and make each government process as efficient as possible.

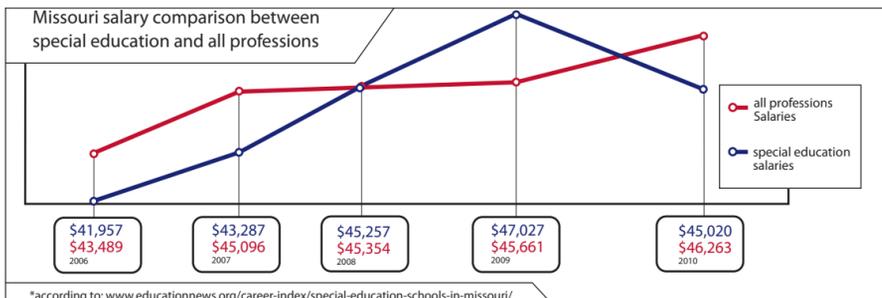
"In my world as a CEO, it's about results," Spence said before speaking to the Adair County Republicans

at Steve's Garden Deli. "If you don't produce results, you get fired. We need to fire our CEO and hire a new CEO of Missouri."

Spence stressed the need for job growth, stating that Missouri ranks 48th across the country for economic growth during the last 10 years.

The key to this job growth, Spence said, is creating an atmosphere across the state that promotes

Please see SPENCE, Page 7



## University reinstates special education MAE program

BY MARTHA TILLMON  
Staff Reporter

After a three-month hiatus, Truman State's education department has reinstated the special education certification program.

The special education certification program at Truman is a part of the Master of Arts in Education program. The education department placed a hold on incoming applications at the end of the spring semester, said Janet Gooch, Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Education.

"After rearranging to adequately staff the program, we think we have a good plan in

place, so we're going to reinstate the program," Gooch said.

Gooch said several faculty members from the education department took advantage of the early retirement incentive, leaving the special education program with only one full-time professor, Dr. Peter Kelly, and one part-time professor, Ms. Beverly Peters. Gooch said generally, there are six to 12 students who graduate from Truman's special education program each year.

"I was concerned when I first heard the news, because I wasn't sure if I was going to be a part of the first group out or the last group into the program," graduate student Amy Galey said.

She said she attended a seminar after the announcement that informing her that she would be part of the last group to go through the program and would not have to stop pursuing her current degree.

Education chair Dr. Paul Yoder said there is a push from the state level for all teachers to have more experience with the special education population.

"Special education is becoming folded into regular education," Yoder said. "The students that are receiving special needs services are receiving those services in a regular education classroom."

Yoder said this new trend in education has created a need for

Please see EDUCATION, Page 7

## Local agency helps weatherize homes

BY DAN ROMINE  
Staff Reporter

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program is continuing to provide financial aid this year to those who can't afford to heat their homes as a part of the Department of Health & Human Services.

LIHEAP is contracted out to agencies around the nation such as the Northeast Missouri Community Action Agency in Kirksville, said Mindy Garrett, an Emergency Services Coordinator for the NMCAA.

Of the five counties (Adair, Clark, Schuyler, Scotland and Knox) across NMCAA's service area, the Agency processes about 2,000 applications, Garrett said. She also said out of those 2,000 applications, about half of them are from Adair County — specifically Kirksville.

The Agency is responsible for 46,151 people across northeast Missouri, and of those 46,151 people, 20 percent of them are at or below the Federal Poverty Line, said Heather Rohn, an Outcomes/Quality Assurance Director for the Agency. Those at or below the Federal Poverty

Line earn less than \$23,000 a year for a family of four, Rohn said. She also said Adair County has the highest poverty rate of the five counties, at 22.2 percent, and is the second poorest county in the state of Missouri.

LIHEAP is one way that the agency can help fight against poverty throughout its service area. Any family that meets Missouri's requirements of being at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Level and lives in a home that hasn't been weatherized since 1994 is eligible to apply for financial aid, Garrett said.

For those applications that are accepted, the agency sends in a crew to weatherize the building as part of the Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program, Garrett said.

The Weatherization Assistance Program enables low-income families to permanently reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient, according to the U.S. Department of Energy's website.

"We take care of health and safety issues first, and then we

Please see WEATHERIZATION, Page 7