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Democratic ticket visits Kirksville

BY ASHLEY JOST
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Gov. Jay Nixon, along with most of the Missouri Democratic ticket, came to Kirksville last weekend to talk to Adair County Democrats about the ticket's platform and the need to recruit voters.

The event was Saturday afternoon at Jack and Sue Magruder's home in Kirksville, with more than 175 attendees. Speeches were given by Nixon, Attorney General Chris Koster, Treasurer Clint Zweifel, Secretary of State candidate Jason Kander and Lieutenant Governor candidate Susan Montee.

Jack Magruder, former A.T. Still University and Truman State President, said until Saturday, he thought Nixon would be the only speaker, and that it was a "pleasant surprise" to see more of the ticket present.

"It was quite the surprise for the ticket to show up," Magruder said. "The Governor told me today that he was bringing the ticket because of how much he likes [Kirksville], and he brought his wife too."

Magruder said he thinks it was important to bring Nixon to Kirksville so citizens have the chance to hear about his achievements as Governor, such as his work to address the drought issues the state has faced, rather than just apologizing to farmers and families and then moving on.

He said he thought it also was important to further involve the public in political action because of the degree of which legislative leaders can impact citizens' lives.

"We need to listen to them, read what they say and look at their records, then make an educated choice," Magruder said.

One of the things Magruder said he enjoyed most about the speeches during the day was the absence of hateful words against the candidate's opponents, especially from Nixon.

During the speeches, candidates discussed their opponent's history to their plans to improve the office they are running for.

Among the attendees were about a dozen members of Truman's College Democrats who had the chance to hear the speeches and take photos with a few candidates.

"Students should be getting involved because these are the people that make choices that affect [their] lives," political science professor Jim Przybylski said. "You can avoid politics but politics won't avoid you."

Przybylski attended the speeches and luncheon. He said like any event, voters might not hear everything they want to hear or agree with the candidate's position.

"It's most important to listen to people and always respect the other side, which is something we always have to emphasize as educators," he said.

SAB announces University speaker

The University speaker for the fall will be Ben Mezrich, the author who wrote the books that inspired the films "21" and "The Social Network"

BY ASHLEY JOST
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The Student Activities Board announced this morning that Ben Mezrich, the journalistic novelist of books which inspired screenplays for "21" and "The Social Network," will be the fall 2012 University Speaker.

Mezrich is set to speak on campus at 8:15 p.m. Nov. 2 in Baldwin Auditorium. Tickets for students, faculty and staff will be free, but general admission ticket costs haven't been decided.

Junior Alli Schleisman, SAB chair of special events, said plans to bring Mezrich to campus were finalized during the last week, and the special events committee began planning for the speaker during the summer after results were tallied from the spring SAB entertainment survey.

Mezrich ranked fourth on the student survey with 487 votes.

Junior Taylor Robertson, SAB chair for the event, said when planning began, the committee started at the top of the list from student votes and worked their way to the speaker that worked best.

The first student pick, Sally Ride, passed away during the summer; the second choice, Dan Savage, would've been a complicated speaker to get because of his new MTV television show, Robertson said, and the third pick, author J.R. Martinez, will be involved with book tours for most of the fall semester.

"We're really happy about getting Ben, and think he's going to be great to publicize to the students," Robertson said. "We can say that Ben wrote



Submitted photo
Ben Mezrich, author of novels that inspired the films "21" and "The Social Network," is coming to Truman State as SAB and the President's Office's University speaker this fall.

the inspiration and covered the story that ended up being "21" or "The Social Network," which is nice for our purposes of getting students to recognize who we're bringing to campus."

Robertson said because the

speaker during the fall generally is the University Speaker, not just an SAB hosted event, the President's office had some input with choosing Mezrich too. She said the President's Office provides funds for more than half of the cost of the Uni-

versity speaker, so input from more than the surveys was taken into account when they decided.

"They allowed us a lot of freedom in who we pursue," Schleisman said. "We just tried
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Potential city ordinance could change building regulations

BY ANDI WATKINS DAVIS
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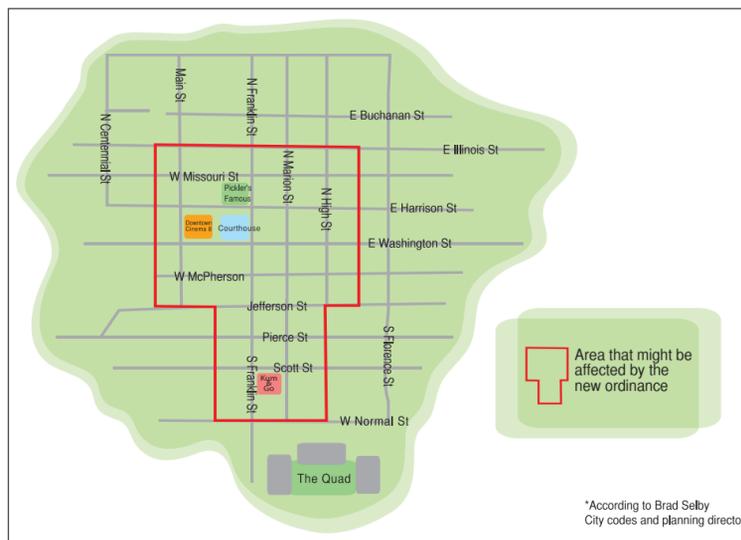
A drafted city ordinance regulating the appearance of new buildings built on The Square was submitted to and reviewed by The Kirksville Historic Preservation Commission during its September meeting last week.

The ordinance was proposed after a survey of downtown business owners expressed interest in preserving the historic appearance of the downtown Kirksville, commission chairman Ken Shook said.

Brad Selby, Kirksville Codes and Planning Director, said 10 people completed the survey stating interest in an ordinance for new buildings throughout the area. He said the idea of this ordinance is not to create new rules for historic preservation but to prevent conflicting appearances between new and old buildings.

"You don't want a steel barn built in the downtown area right next to five or six historic brick buildings," Selby said.

The ordinance is intended to apply to buildings built on The Square, as well as buildings in the surrounding area from Illinois Street to Normal Street and from First Street to High Street, Selby said. There will be some exception areas within this zone, he said.



Selby said the ordinance likely will specify, among other things, the types of windows, ceilings, storefronts and doors that can be built on new buildings. It also will include regulations on the type of materials that can be used, he said.

"If there is a draw to the downtown, certainly the architecture is part of it," Selby said.

The current draft recommends new buildings must be reviewed by a committee based out of the Historic Preservation Commission.

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Fraternity petitions for renovations

BY KAITLYN DANIELS
Staff Reporter

Alpha Phi Alpha, a national panhellenic fraternity, is circulating a petition to gather support for renovating the Baldwin Hall auditorium stage.

The condition of Baldwin Hall's stage impacts students or organizations that perform on the stage and budget director Dave Rector said the renovation process will begin during the next few months and is estimated to cost \$6 million to complete.

Rob Jones, senior and president of Alpha Phi Alpha, said the fraternity does some type of community service every semester and this semester they wanted their community service to be tailored to Truman students and something they needed so they started the petition.

"We feel that Baldwin stage is something that everyone uses," Jones said. "It's something everyone has a voice about so if we present the signatures to someone higher up that sees that one-fifth of the school wants this done [it will hopefully] expedite the process."

Jones said he has performed on the stage at least five times during the past year and has noticed the floor isn't level.

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