

Local Kum & Go sold to Casey's

BY PAIGE YUNGERMANN
Staff Reporter

The Kirksville Kum & Go on South Franklin Street is one of 22 Kum & Go stores across Missouri, North Dakota and Iowa that were sold to Casey's General Store earlier this month.

David Miller, Kum & Go vice president of marketing, said Casey's will take over the Kirksville store during middle to late November. Miller said the reason for the sale was that it is in the best interest of Kum & Go Corporation.

"We look at each store on a case-to-case basis for its growth and potential," Miller said. "Unfortunately, the Kirksville location was considered to be not an asset. Casey's was interested in the store and felt it agreed with its purposes. We think this is a win-win for both companies."

Kyle Krause, Kum & Go's president and CEO, said Kum & Go will open 40 new stores this year, according to a press release.

"It's our continued desire to consolidate and strengthen our asset base and offer a consistent brand to our customers in Kum & Go's core markets," Krause said in the press release. "The sale of these properties, in addition to our new store growth, brings us one step closer to carrying out that strategy."

Bill Walljasper, Casey's chief financial officer, said for Casey's, the purchase of the Kum & Go store is an opportunity to expand the business. There currently are two Casey's stores in Kirksville.

While an exact plan has not yet been decided, Walljasper said it is possible the Kirksville Kum & Go will be remodeled to accommodate Casey's. He said a remodel will likely take a few days and will allow the new store to include food such as pizza, doughnuts and sandwiches.

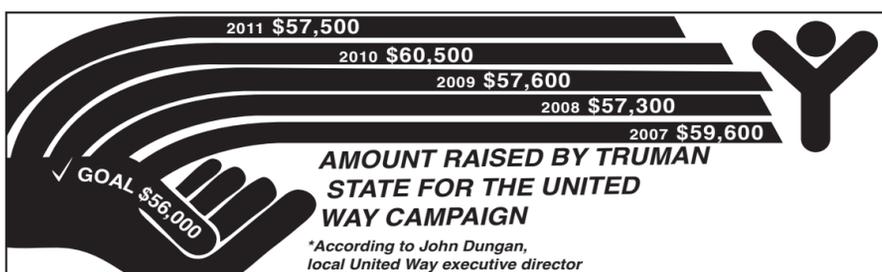
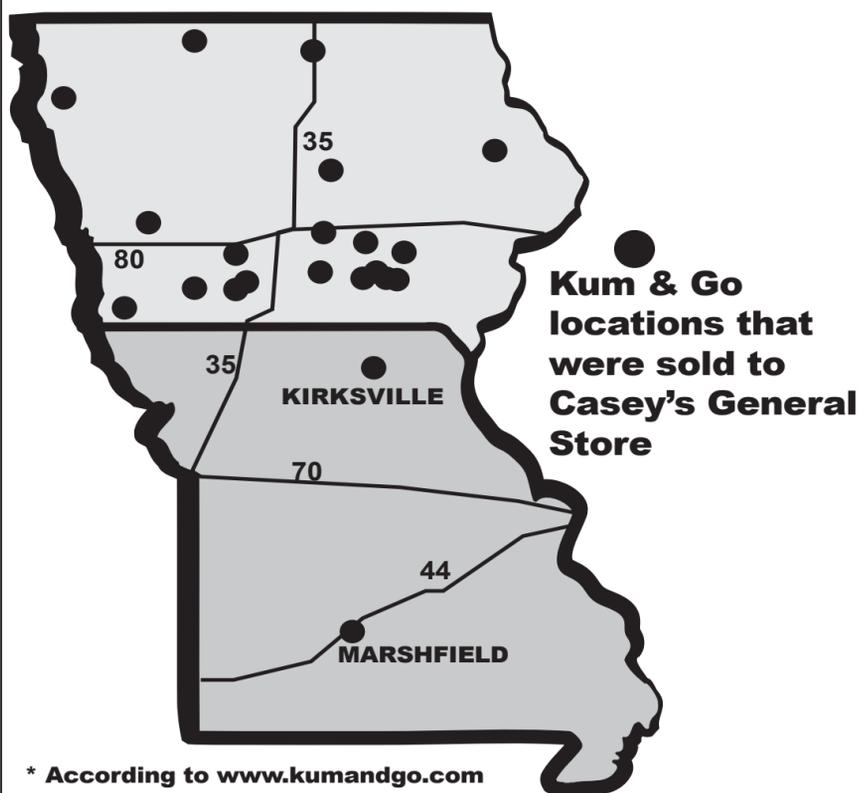
Miller said for the Kum & Go employees, managers are being offered new positions within the company and regular employees are being interviewed by Casey's. He said Kum & Go employees likely will be offered similar positions to the job they had at Kum & Go.

He said for management positions, employees might be required to transfer to a different Kum & Go location. Kum & Go works with the managers to discuss whether relocation is right for them, Miller said. If a manager chooses not to relocate, he said Kum & Go will assist their transition to a new job.

Customers will not be affected by the ownership change, other than new food items being available for purchase, Walljasper said.

Freshman Anna Burland said she likes Casey's better than Kum & Go and looks forward to the change in ownership.

CLOSING KUM & GO LOCATIONS



Community prepares for coming flu season

BY ASHLEY JOST
News Editor
index.newseditor@gmail.com

Local organizations are preparing for the approaching flu season by gathering vaccinations and informing residents about the benefits of receiving the flu shot.

There are various locations across the City for residents and students to choose from to receive a flu shot, and cost varies by location.

The Student Health Center is offering flu shots for \$31 to students, faculty and staff, Center Director Brenda Higgins said. Most insurance plans cover the complete cost of the shot, she said, because it's considered a preventative vaccination through the Affordable Care Act.

"Most parts of the ACA haven't been implemented yet, but the portion about covering preventative activities without a co-pay has," Higgins said.

There is no administration fee for the shot, she said, as the \$31 covers just the vaccination.

Higgins said the Center should be getting their vaccinations this week after the set they received last week was compromised after reaching an unsuitable temperature during transportation.

"We purchased 300 [shots] for faculty and staff, and 270 [shots] for students," she said. "The numbers are based on how many we gave last year. I'm not really happy with the numbers, but we can always get more within a couple of days if we need them."

Higgins said she would like to see up to 500 students receive vaccinations, which, she said, isn't a very large percentage of the 6,000 student population.

"[With 500 vaccinations], I could convince myself we have at least the highest risk individuals covered," she said.

She said many students depend on other organizations for their flu shots, but are still getting the annual vaccination.

"We don't care where students get vaccinated as long as they do it," Higgins said.

The Adair County Health Department is starting their annual 2012 Drive-Thru Influenza Clinic next week where they plan to provide residents with free flu vaccines while also practicing for disaster preparedness in the event of a flu epidemic, administrator Jim LeBaron said.

The first drive-thru clinic is from 1 to 7 p.m., Oct. 4 at the Northeast Missouri Fairgrounds on E. Illinois Street.

LeBaron said there is no cost or insurance information required by anyone who wants to get vaccinated, though if a person has their Medicaid or Medicare cards, they are encouraged to bring their account information.

The Health Department also is hosting 11 other clinic dates during October for anyone interested in getting vaccinated.

Anyone who has an allergy to eggs or feathers, has had a severe reaction from vaccines during the past, or has a fever or has fainted from a vaccine previously is encouraged to not get the vaccine, or should consult the Health Department beforehand, LeBaron said.

The Walgreen's pharmacy is another flu shot option for students and residents this fall.

A pharmacy representative said the shot costs \$31.99. Similar to the Student Health Center, most insurance companies will cover most, if not all, of the cost because of the ACA.

For more information about the flu vaccine, contact the Student Health Center at 660-785-4182, the Adair County Health Department at 660-665-8491 or Walgreen's pharmacy at 660-665-3063.

Local flu shot costs

Student Health Center: \$31
Adair County Health Dept.: Free
Walgreen's: \$31.99

Truman participates in City-wide fundraiser

BY CHELSIE YOKUM
Staff Reporter

The Adair County — North-east Missouri chapter of United Way kicked off their annual campaign with a luncheon Thursday Sept. 13 in the Missouri Hall Georgian Room.

United Way is an organization that establishes a support system for people who need help and funds around 20 agencies throughout the Kirksville area, including the Adair County 4-H Council, the Adair County YMCA, the Salvation Army and Victims Support Services.

United Way arranges a variety of fundraisers during their three-month-long campaign season, including working with local restaurants to arrange for proceeds to be donated to the organization, and having auctions to reach its goal of \$250,000.

Executive Director John Dungan said the Adair county chapter of United Way's single largest contributor is Truman State, whose students and faculty work during the campaign season to raise money through various ways. He said the University's goal for the season is \$56,000 and Truman has exceeded this goal for the past several years.

"Truman is fantastic," Dungan said. "We've raised over \$200,000 the last couple of years. Truman is one-fourth of that. Truman also

provides a lot of volunteer support and leadership support as well."

Sally Herleth, faculty co-chair of the luncheon, began fundraising and sent out letters and pledge cards to faculty and staff requesting donations. A list of programs is included in the letters, allowing contributors to choose which agency their money aids.

Along with the pledge letters, Sodexo and Residence Life will team up later during the semester to sponsor Food Fast, a fundraiser in which students can choose to donate extra meal blocks from their meal plan to United Way.

A committee of 11 student advisors, led by Dobson Hall Director Drew Donahoo, works directly with residents to organize and work the fundraiser. Student Advisors go door-to-door speaking with students and Sodexo places sign-up sheets for students in the cafeterias and the Dobson Hall C-store.

"At the end of the semester, people usually have quite a few meals left over and so we try to encourage them to donate those in October so that other people can use them in ways that we wouldn't be able to," said Donahoo.

Kirksville and Adair County businesses and organization also contribute to United Way. Colton's Steakhouse and Ruby Tuesday's will be hosting fundraising nights in which all proceeds will be donated to United Way.

In addition, United Way arranged for a guitar raffle at the Red Barn Blues Festival that took place Saturday evening at the Round Barn, located off Route 63 and Route P. The guitar was signed by the entire lineup of musicians and raffled off to a guest.

Faculty co-chair Pamela Ryan said the program benefits those who donate, as well as those who receive the donations.

"[United Way] impacts the most number of people," Ryan said. "There's programs for every kind of person—it's central. I think when we personally get involved in something and know the good that it's doing in a community it makes a difference to us somehow. [...] I think as people it's important to be part of a community. [...] To me that's the most important thing, because everything that we raise stays in the community."

Eighty percent of people who are assisted by the programs supported by United Way only need to take advantage of these services for a short amount of time, she said.

"We sort of have this image of the homeless guy in New York who just takes handout after handout and never has a job, and that's not true in Adair County," Ryan said. "Most of the people are only for a short term, and then they get back on their feet. And what a great thing for that to happen."

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