

Adair County Public Library to host computer classes

BY ERICA NOLAN
Staff Reporter

The Adair County Public Library will host computer classes through Dec. 12 with a break Nov. 28 for Thanksgiving.

Kara Drury, Adair County Public Library Administrative Assistant, said the computer classes were started summer 2011 when the library received a grant to purchase 10 computers to teach computer basics.

Drury said the library offered the computer classes because it had received a lot of technology literacy requests from Adair county residents. The courses take pressure off of the reference staff, who help people at the computers and help patrons check items out of the library, Drury said.

"Our classes are mainly older people and at a very basic level," Drury said. "It is good for them to become comfortable with computers because most of them are scared of technology. They think they'll break it, which is not the case."

Each class costs \$5 and a different computer basic is taught during each course, Drury said. Last Friday's class covered social media, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Drury said senior Jennie Avellino from Truman State taught the course.

Drury said most of the courses she teaches are from personal knowledge, but if it is something she is unfamiliar with she practices it the week before.

Drury said a handful of people from the Kirksville community have helped her teach certain computer classes. She said a community member who works

with computers taught a class about antivirus software once.

Janet Romine, Head of Public Services at Pickler Memorial Library, said it is important that people understand basic software.

"It's part of our daily lives and it's how we communicate now," Romine said. "Whether it be through social media or texting or whatnot or even just our web presence in profiles. We need to understand how that works."

Romine said at Pickler she sees people are comfortable with basic technology concepts, but often struggle with programs at a deeper level, such as when trying to use them to do more creative things. Romine said people struggle with the amount of technology that exists as well.

Romine said a basic understanding of computers is beneficial for people who are trying to re-enter the job force.

Junior Elena Bellamy, Information Technology Services Help Desk worker, said she thinks a lot of students who come in for computer help would be less stressed if they knew how their computers worked.

"People feel more secure with someone who is, or at least seems to be, confident with computers," Bellamy said. "Really, any job you work with, even if they're not looking specifically for someone who's good with computers, it will make you more hireable and also make your job easier."

Any Truman student interested in assisting with the public library's courses can contact Drury at (660) 665-6038.

COMPUTER CLASSES

The Adair County Public Library hosts computer classes for the public. There is a \$5 registration fee for each class. Upcoming events are listed below.



E-Book & E-Reader class
4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 14



E-mail Basics class
4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21

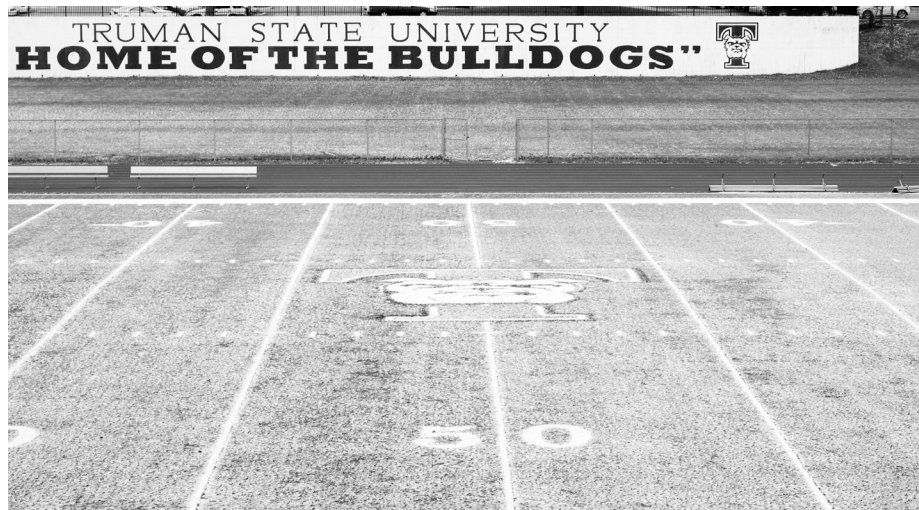


LinkedIn Intro class
4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5



Ancestry.com class
4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12

Source: kirksvillechamber.com



Gabriel Gowen/Index

First snow graces Kirksville

Early on the morning of Nov. 11, Kirksville residents woke up to the first snow of the season. The temperature dropped to 18 degrees Fahrenheit, and Spike the Bulldog was left to freeze on the field. The dusting of snow is just a taste of what is to come, as winter officially starts on Dec. 21.



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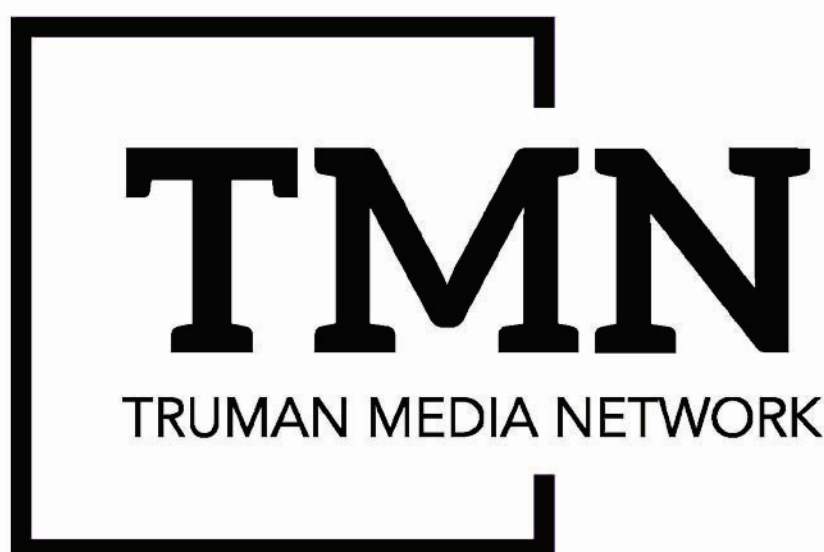
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