

New Smoothie King to open next Spring

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Staff Writer

This spring, a Truman State University alumna and former Kirksville resident is returning to the community with something she's very excited to share — a Smoothie King franchise.

Jackie Floyd, who lives in Columbia, Missouri, plans to have the drive-thru smoothie shack open as soon as early April, in place of the now vacant "Mugshotz" at 1002 Baltimore.

"We love Smoothie King, and we love what the product has done for our lives," Floyd said. "We wanted to bring a business and lifestyle that we're proud of to the town we grew up in."

Floyd graduated from Truman in 2003, with degrees in theater and English. She then went to Kansas City for her master's degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Following that, Floyd decided to move overseas to the Middle East, where she taught at Manor Hall International School in Abu Dhabi, of the United Arab Emirates. She taught theater at the high school level from fall 2013 to summer 2014.

Floyd has already opened two Smoothie Kings, her most recent being a Jefferson City location on Nov. 4, 2016. Floyd said this newest store and her other Columbia location are both doing great.

Floyd said Smoothie King first sends their own contractors to set up the building and provides franchise owners like Floyd with a complete plan for construction. Floyd said once she's about a month from finishing construction, the interviewing and hiring process begins.

When it comes time to open, Floyd said they usually do a soft opening with minimal fanfare, and in some cases will have a bigger grand-opening party a couple months down the road.

Floyd said part of the reason for bringing the franchise to Kirksville is an effort to bring the product a little closer to home.

"We've had it in the back of our minds for a long time," Floyd said. "We talk to a lot of people here, and we've had so many of them reach out and ask 'When are you going to bring this to Kirksville?'"

"A lot of people want to think of us as an ice cream shop that has to compete with something like Dairy Queen," Floyd said. "That's not the kind of product we deliver. Our smoothies are a healthy, fruit-based meal replacement."

Floyd said because it's a college town, Kirksville brings in students from all over the state. Cities like St. Louis, Floyd said, are huge Smoothie King cities.

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Photo by Spencer Foust/TMN

At 1002 N. Baltimore St., renovations begin on the old Mugshotz building. This will be the site of the new Smoothie King this Spring.

FIRE DEPARTMENT | Adair County is coming up with new ways to get more fire department volunteers

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Wehmeyer said she is a third generation firefighter from Holts Summit and started with their junior firefighter program at 14 and became an official volunteer firefighter at 18. Wehmeyer said she has currently been a volunteer Adair County firefighter for three years. She said she hopes to reach new people in the community with the basic firefighting classes she's teaching.

"A goal of mine is wherever I end up to find a volunteer fire department I can call home," Wehmeyer said. "You give as much as you can. As volunteers we know everyone has priorities — mine [is] obviously school because that's why I'm here — but outside that I give as much time as I can. With this class, that's one of the things I'm trying to incorporate.

We're going to try and get everyone that certification."

Wehmeyer said anyone can be a volunteer firefighter, and all types of people with varying characteristics and interests can succeed as a volunteer firefighter.

"The goal of this class is to train those that either want to be a firefighter or didn't see themselves as a firefighter just giving them that chance to get the basic skills," Wehmeyer said. "Every scene offers new circumstances so working with those, adapting and overcoming is always a new challenge and always something exciting."

Wehmeyer will be teaching basic firefighting classes 6:30 p.m. every Thursday starting Feb. 9 through April 27 and 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, March 25 and April 22 at Novinger Fire Station.

World War One media and artifacts on display in Pickler Memorial Library

Photo by Rachel Fechter/TMN

Lithographs like this one are on display at the library, many of them containing slogans and propaganda to motivate people to help with the war effort. Lithographs similar to this one are also on display in the University Art Gallery with captions written by students of history professor Jason McDonald.

Photo by Rachel Fechter/TMN

Books about the first world war are on display at Pickler Memorial Library. Any of the books in the display case can be checked out for the public to read.

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