



MU News Bureau

Daily Clips Packet

August 1, 2017

MISSOURIAN

Report shows MU Extension makes nearly \$1 billion statewide economic impact

CONNOR LAGORE, 12 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — **MU Extension generated an estimated near-\$1 billion economic impact in fiscal year 2016, according to a new report.**

TEconomy Partners LLC found that MU Extension's "initiative areas," including grazing workshops and taxpayer education counseling, generated \$945 million for Missouri's statewide economy from an initial \$86 million investment.

The goal of the MU Extension program, according to its website, is to make practical education available with an office in every Missouri county — the programs offered range from agricultural techniques to disease prevention. Marshall Stewart, vice chancellor for extension and engagement at MU, said this outreach is part of MU's mission.

“We take knowledge and innovation created on the campus to the communities of the state. This is done in areas including, but not limited to, agriculture, business development, entrepreneurship, health, nutrition, education, STEM and youth development,” he said in a phone interview.

The program's \$86 million investment came from a combination of MU funds, federal funds, county-based resources, grants, contracts and fees, Stewart said.

MU Extension's expenditures have a total impact of \$175.9 million. A larger examination that includes more subtle impacts from the program's initiative show reveal the \$945 million impact.

TEconomy's report also shows that MU Extension's annual reach impacts more than 1.3 million Missourians in local programs. According to the release, the MU Extension website had 2.8 million unique visitors who downloaded 14.5 million publications.

After-school programs and 4-H Youth Development clubs managed by MU Extensions serve more than 230,000 kids, according to the report.

Stewart said that this report can help MU Extension learn and grow for the future. "There's a great need for our institution in what it does in terms of impact, but there's also an opportunity for us to think about new and innovative ways to do that in the future," he said.

He said the link between MU and the state of Missouri is crucial.

"Finding and building on the connection between the work of our campus faculty and the communities of Missouri is really important for MU and the state," Stewart said.



MU study finds severe punishment has negative impact on children for years

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/mu-study-finds-severe-punishment-has-negative-impact-on-children-for-years>

By: Jasmyn Willis

Generated from News Bureau press release: [Spanking Can Be Detrimental for Children's Behavior, Even Ten Years Later](#)

COLUMBIA – A team of University of Missouri researchers found children who are severely disciplined as infants have negative behavior up to fifth grade. The study found this to be especially true among African American children.

Severe discipline includes spanking, corporal punishment, yelling, and screaming. Millsap Professor of Diversity and Multicultural Studies Gustavo Carlo conducted the study.

“Our findings show how parents treat their children at a young age, particularly African-American children, significantly impacts their behavior,” Carlo said. “It is very important that parents refrain from physical punishment, as it can have long-lasting impacts. If we want to nurture positive behaviors, all parents should teach a child how to regulate their behaviors early.”

Researchers studied 1,840 mothers and children who were enrolled in the Early Head Start Research and Evaluation Project.

The researchers assessed the children at 15 months, 25 months and again in fifth grade. The study used interviews with mothers, teachers and home visits to complete the study. All of the participants in the study were at or below the poverty level.

All participants were European American or African American. The study found African American children had more aggressive behavior and delinquent behavior in the fifth grade when they received severe punishment by the time they are 15 months old. African American children who received physical punishment were also less likely to exhibit positive behaviors. An example of a positive behavior would be helping other children. There was not a connection found between punishment and negative emotions found for European American children.

"We found that it was a different pattern of relations between early temperament and discipline practices and outcomes depending on the ethnicity of the child," Carlo said. "So for European American kids, we found that the negative emotionality, their temperament seemed to be a stronger predictor of their outcomes later than fifth grade. It seemed to predict or influence their ability to regulate their emotions, and so that's what ultimately predicted their outcomes."



Greitens makes University of Missouri curator appointments

BY SUMMER BALLENTINE *Associated Press*

COLUMBIA, MO. - Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens on Monday announced he's appointing a top Express Scripts official and a former Mizzou basketball star to the governing board of the University of Missouri System, which still is working to rebuild an image damaged after protests at the Columbia campus.

The first-year Republican governor chose Express Scripts Vice President and Deputy General Counsel Julie Brncic, along with former basketball player Jon Sundvold, to fill two vacant seats on the system's board of curators.

If confirmed by the Republican-led state Senate, Greitens' appointees will step into leadership at a four-campus system that drew national scrutiny following 2015 protests over racial issues at the Columbia campus.

One student went on a hunger strike, and the football team threatened not to play over concerns that administrators were indifferent to complaints of racial problems. The protests culminated with the resignations of the former system president and Columbia campus chancellor.

Leadership of the system has been in flux since then. University of Missouri System President Mun Choi took over for Interim President Mike Middleton in March, and University of Missouri

Interim Chancellor Hank Foley left the state's flagship Columbia campus in May to take over as president at the New York Institute of Technology. Three curators also resigned in the months following protests in Columbia, and two more resigned in January.

Greitens' appointments will mean the nine-member board will be fully staffed but with only one black member: former University of Missouri linebacker and Missouri Agriculture Department deputy director Darryl Chatman. Both Brncic and Sundvold are white.

Brncic would be the second female curator if approved by the Republican-led Senate.

"I am excited to serve as the board of curators and University leadership work to reposition the system for long-term success," she said in a statement sent through an Express Scripts spokesman.

Greitens and his administration have worked with Express Scripts previously during his short time in office. The governor in mid-July announced the St. Louis-based online pharmacy benefits manager will help provide data analytics as part of a state program aimed at tracking those prescribing and filling scripts for opioids. The company also was among a list of "benefactors" for Greitens' inauguration, although he did not disclose how much Express Scripts gave.

Sundvold has worked as a curator before. Former Democratic Gov. Jay Nixon initially appointed him to serve on the board during Nixon's last few months in office last year, but he never received Senate confirmation. Sundvold didn't immediately return an Associated Press request for comment Monday.

Greitens also appointed Lee's Summit Republican Sen. Will Kraus to the State Tax Commission. Kraus, who frequently worked on tax policy during his time in the Legislature, said he'd resign Monday to take the job.

The governor named Askinosie Chocolate Chief Kinship Officer Melissa Gelner, insurance agency owner and agent Eddy Justice, and Kansas Christian College President Delbert Scott to the State Board of Education.

Similar stories ran statewide including:

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ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Governor appoints two University of Missouri curators

[By Ashley Jost St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#)

Gov. Eric Greitens announced appointments Monday to fill the remaining vacancies on the University of Missouri System's board of curators.

The appointments include Julia Brncic from St. Louis and Jon Sundvold from Columbia.

Brncic, assistant general counsel and vice president at Express Scripts, represents the first congressional district on the board. Sundvold, president of investment advisory firm Sundvold Financial, represents the fourth.

This is the second time Sundvold, a former Mizzou basketball player who spent nine years in the NBA, has been appointed to the board.

In February, [Greitens rescinded Sundvold's appointment](#), made by former Gov. Jay Nixon.

Greitens also withdrew Nixon's appointed student representative to the board, a Mizzou student named Patrick Graham.

He announced Monday that Courtney Lauer, a recent Mizzou law school graduate, as the new student representative. Lauer is pursuing an advanced law certification in dispute resolution this fall.

While the student representative does not vote, it is seen as a critical position as a conduit between the board and the student body.

Pending the approval of these appointments, Greitens will have hand-picked six of nine board members, not counting the non-voting student representative.

The curators meet again in September at the Kansas City campus.

T COLUMBIA DAILY **TRIBUNE**

Greitens selects Sundvold, Brncic for UM curator appointments

By SUMMER BALLENTINE (AP)

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president at the New York Institute of Technology. Three curators also resigned in the months following protests in Columbia and two more resigned in January.

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MISSOURIAN

Sundvold, two others named to UM System Board of Curators

EDWARD MCKINLEY

COLUMBIA — Jon Sundvold was an MU basketball star from 1979 to 1983, and now, for the second time, he has been named to the UM System Board of Curators. Gov. Eric Greitens announced Sundvold's appointment Monday afternoon, along with Julia Brncic and Courtney Lauer.

Their appointments are subject to consent by the state Senate.

Sundvold was an All-American for the Tigers in 1983 and played in the NBA from 1983 to 1992, when a neck injury forced his retirement.

He also won an International Basketball Association silver medal with [the U.S. national team in 1982](#). On the team with him was Doc Rivers, current coach of the Los Angeles Clippers and former NBA champion.

In the NBA, Sundvold played for the Seattle Supersonics, which is no longer a team, the San Antonio Spurs and the Miami Heat. He participated in the NBA's three-point shooting contest [during All Star Weekend in 1989 and 1990](#). He lost in the semifinals in the 1990 competition.

Sundvold has a finance degree from MU and is founder and president of Sundvold Financial. He was named to the Board of Curators by former Gov. Nixon on June 8, 2016, but Greitens withdrew Sundvold's nomination on Jan. 31.

Brncic works as vice president and associate general counsel for Express Scripts, the 22nd largest company in the U.S.

"Express Scripts is a prescription benefit plan provider that makes the use of prescription drugs safer and more affordable for our members. Express Scripts handles millions of prescriptions each year through home delivery from the Express Scripts Pharmacy," [the website says](#).

Brncic graduated from Purdue with a Bachelor of Arts, then from Washington University with a law degree and an executive master's degree in business administration.

Greitens has come under fire recently for what some view as an inappropriate relationship with Express Scripts.

[The St. Louis Post Dispatch reported](#) that Greitens received a \$25,000 campaign donation in December 2016 from Express Scripts, as well as an undisclosed amount for his inauguration. Greitens ordered a prescription drug monitoring program last week — Missouri was the last in the country to establish one — and gave Express Scripts a \$250,000 no-bid contract to establish the program.

Lauer, who will serve as student curator on the board, is an MU Law School student and is getting her master of laws degree in dispute resolution. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in communications from Columbia College, has a law degree from MU and is on the mock trial team at MU.

The nine-member Board of Curators governs the University of Missouri System and its four campuses as well as MU Health Care.

T COLUMBIA DAILY TRIBUNE

Burks sworn in as county clerk following Greitens' appointment

By BRITTANY RUESS

Following his official swearing-in ceremony, Boone County Clerk Taylor Burks said to a courtroom full of county officials on Monday he hopes voters don't notice a difference between himself and his predecessor, longtime clerk Wendy Noren, when they go to the polls.

Burks, a 31-year-old Republican, was appointed to the vacant Boone County clerk position by Gov. Eric Greitens on Monday. He said he received a call from Greitens' office that morning, offering him the job.

Presiding 13th Circuit Judge Kevin Crane officiated Burks' swearing-in ceremony Monday afternoon inside the Boone County Courthouse. He was joined by his wife, Elyse, two young sons and numerous county officials.

"I'm really looking forward to getting into office and seeing what Wendy" Noren has "accomplished first hand and carrying that legacy forward," he said in an interview.

Burks said he's been told he will be the first Republican to serve as Boone County clerk.

Former Boone County Clerk Wendy Noren, a Democrat, resigned as clerk in June, citing her battle with cancer. Noren was first hired to the clerk's office in 1978 and she won her first election in 1982.

Burks said he wants to build on Noren's success in the clerk's office and doesn't plan to make any major changes initially.

"I don't have any intention of changing that before next Tuesday, so how elections have always run under Wendy is how they will continue to be run — fairly, following the law, ensuring everyone who has the right to vote can vote," he said.

Burks said he wants Art Auer to continue to serve as director of elections. Auer, who became director of elections since 1986, took over as interim clerk after being appointed by the Boone County Commission on June 20.

A lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserves, Burks previously served as a voting assistance officer for eight years in his collateral duty, or a job he took on in addition to his main role. In the position, Burks said he encouraged military members to vote while deployed overseas and the way elections are run became one of his passions.

"In addition to what I have done with campaigns in the past, being on the voting side of the military, I think, has helped me to identify some of the challenges service members face in casting their ballot, too," he said.

The Boone County Central Republican Committee interviewed Burks a month ago. The committee recommended Burks over Bryan Chapman, vice president of supply chain for OTR Wheel Engineering, Inc.

Burks said he went through a few rounds of interviews and a background check with Greitens' office.

The clerk's seat will be up for election in 2018, and Burks said he will run. Democrat Brianna Lennon, who was local Democrats' recommendation for Greitens' appointment, said Monday she is still seriously interested in running for clerk.

An attorney, Lennon previously was the director of the Secretary of State's Elections Integrity Unit. In that role, Lennon interacted with Noren, who would later endorse her for southern district commissioner. Southern District Commissioner Fred Parry defeated Lennon in the commission race. Burks ran Parry's campaign.

Parry said Burks is "extremely intelligent" and is gifted in finance and logistics. Burks is the director of distribution, inventory and asset management for the University of Missouri System.

"I think he's coming in with the right attitude and right skill set," Parry said.

Earlier this year, Burks ran unsuccessfully for a seat on the Boone Hospital Center Board of Trustees. He said he was considering a run for Boone County presiding commissioner in 2018 before he was approached about the open county clerk position.

“My intention has been to serve Boone County how best I can,” he said. “This is a position that came up, and I was asked to consider it and look at it. I wouldn’t have been willing to serve if didn’t have the interest.”

Though his first day was officially Monday, Burks said he cannot execute certain official duties of the clerk until his bond is secured by the county. Jenna Redel, the county’s human resources director, is working on securing that bond, he said.



Greitens appoints new Boone County Clerk

Watch the story: <http://www.komu.com/news/greitens-appoints-new-boone-county-clerk>

COLUMBIA - Gov. Eric Greitens made numerous state appointments Monday, including a new Boone County Clerk.

Taylor Burks, of Columbia, was appointed as the new Boone County Clerk. The position became vacant after the resignation Wendy S. Noren, who became ill after serving nearly 40 years.

Burks was sworn in Monday afternoon and is expected to begin full duties as soon as the county finishes the process of taking out a bond for him. The county takes out a bond on any employees who deal with financial matters. Fred Parry, the Southern District Boone County Commissioner, said it is a simple process and compared it to buying an insurance policy.

Parry said he expects the paperwork to be processed in the next day and that Burks will be overseeing next week's election.

Burks said he wants to hold up Noren's legacy.

"I think my biggest challenge is getting up to speed quickly before the election on Tuesday and then moving forward from there, rocking the boat as little as possible in these first few months so we can continue in her good works and see what we can do better for the Boone County residents," he said.

Parry said he is confident that the transition will be smooth and that Burks is very capable.

"With the election just a week away and Missouri voting laws have changed and the 'Show It 2 Vote' regulation has come through so I think Taylor is a very smart guy with some great experience," Parry said. "I think he'll be up to speed pretty quick, so we will have a smooth election."

Burks served as the director of distribution, inventory and asset management for the University of Missouri System for the last three years. Prior to that position, Burks was a supply officer in the U.S. Navy.

"When I was active duty in the Navy I was a voting assistance officer, helping service members get registered and exercise their right to vote. I've always been active with candidates and public policy that I'm passionate about and so being the hopefully nonpartisan clerk running elections here in Boone County is something that appealed to me based on that background," Burks said.

Burks is also the first Republican to hold the position of Boone County Clerk in the county's history.

"This is kind of an interesting change for office holders, a very welcomed change," Parry said.

Burks continues to serve in the Navy Reserves. He holds a bachelor's degree in justice systems from Truman State University, a master's degree in administrative leadership from the University of Oklahoma, and a master's degree in accounting from Washington University.

The Boone County Republican Central Committee [recommended Burks](#) to Greitens for the position July 1.

Other appointments made Monday include Nicole Wood to the Conservation Commission; Gary Metzger and Joe Keifer to the Missouri State Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees; Melissa Gelner, Eddy Justice and Delbert Scott to the State Board of Education; Teresa Acord as the new Shannon County Public Administrator; Sen. Will Kraus as a member of the State Tax Commission; and Julia Brncic, Jon Sundvold and Courtney Lauer as members of the University of Missouri Board of Curators.

Burks appointed Boone County Clerk

By MISSOURIAN STAFF

COLUMBIA — Taylor Burks was scheduled to be sworn in as the new Boone County Clerk at 3 p.m. Monday in a ceremony at the Boone County Courthouse.

Gov. Eric Greitens announced Burks' appointment earlier Monday afternoon, according to a news release from the governor's office. The appointment followed the June resignation of Wendy Noren, who served as clerk for 35 years.

The candidacy of Burks, 29, was endorsed by the Boone County Republican Central Committee on July 1.

"The committee and myself are tickled pink that he's been named Boone County Clerk," said Mike Zweifel, chairman of the Boone County Republican Central Committee. "Taylor is right for the job."

Burks is the UM System's director of distribution, inventory and asset management. He served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy and continues to serve in that branch's Reserves. Burks graduated from Truman State University in 2008 and earned master's degrees from Washington University and the University of Oklahoma.

He lost a bid for a seat on the Boone Hospital Center Board of Trustees in April.

Noren was elected in 1982 and re-elected eight times. Between 2004 and 2017, she served as the National Association of Counties' representative to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. Well-known nationally as an elections expert, she traveled to Albania and Bosnia to serve as an international election observer.

Locally, Noren developed software that let Boone County become part of a federally mandated Missouri voter registration database. By making her own software instead of buying it from the state, she saved county taxpayers almost \$125,000.

THE ST. LOUIS AMERICAN

A conversation with David Kurpius, dean of the Missouri School of Journalism

By AMERICAN STAFF

David Kurpius, who just completed his second year as dean of the Missouri School of Journalism, is a true believer in the value and power of journalism and being a journalist.

“It is a very important role because we are not acting for ourselves as journalists; we are acting on the behalf of citizens,” he said in a live interview with BBC Radio 5 in March.

“We are trying to make sure that citizens receive good, trustworthy, accurate information on which they can make decisions about their government and about their lives within the society. I would agree that the technologies may change, the delivery systems may change, the way that governmental officials and the powerful and journalists interact may change, but at the end of the day, it is about just really good, hard journalistic efforts to get to the facts and share them appropriately with citizens.”

He also believes that newsroom diversity improves journalism and is leading efforts to the diversify the school at both faculty and student levels, recently hiring six new faculty of color and initiating new outreach efforts to prospective students in urban areas. His own research focuses on the intersection of journalism education, media and democracy.

The American asked Kurpius for an update on one of the nation’s premier schools of journalism and its diversity efforts.

The St. Louis American: *What’s new at the Missouri School of Journalism?*

David Kurpius: The end of the academic year at the J-School is always filled with many highlights. Most significantly, we were reaccredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications. What really pleases me is a comment in the report: “The School continues to be one of the best programs in the country.”

Our students, faculty and staff have won hundreds of awards this year. Our newsrooms compete against professionals around the country for some of these awards – and win! One example: KBIA-FM – a student-staffed NPR affiliate – just won 10 regional Edward R. Murrow awards,

along with three won by KOMU-TV, mid-Missouri's NBC affiliate. Our Mojo Ad agency, which focuses on the YAYA (youth and young adult) market just finished an impressive campaign presentation for client Ocean Spray Cranberry. What I'd like your readers to know is that St. Louis students don't have to go far for the best training in journalism and strategic communication.

One more thing: We've spent the year on strategic planning and will begin to implement the plan in the near future. We're being proactive in preparing students for the future.

The St. Louis American: You are completing your second year as a dean at Missouri. Reflect on your experiences during this time period.

David Kurpius: I arrived at the beginning of July in 2015. The hot, sticky, humid summer days made me feel like I had never left Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It was exciting to be the new dean on campus and begin connecting with people at the university and around the state. The events on campus that brought issues related to race, inclusivity and diversity on campus that fall did come as a surprise as universities across the country are facing the same issues. The Missouri School of Journalism responded to the protests by recognizing the First Amendment protection of journalists and the protesters. What we shared broadly is that the School of Journalism wants to be a welcoming environment for people from different backgrounds, races, religions and sexual orientations. Perhaps the best way to demonstrate this is to have all kinds of diversity in the classroom. We've been the most aggressive unit on campus in hiring faculty of color – six new professors so far (see sidebar).

We're walking the talk in other ways. Our associate dean of graduate students is the first African American to hold this position. Our faculty authors recently updated what was the first college textbook on cross-cultural journalism, and we were the first to start teaching this course more than 20 years ago. One of our professors is working with citizens and others in Ferguson to develop a better understanding of the community's structure and why the events there occurred.

I'll end this question with something that made me feel like real progress is happening. I met with National Association of Black Journalists members – who have won the national "student chapter of the year" honor – the week before school got out. I asked them if they felt if they were being supported and appreciated by the school. Yes, yes, they responded. Then they turned the question on me and asked what they could do to help. We're becoming a family that supports one another.

The St. Louis American: What efforts has the school made in connecting with students in St. Louis?

David Kurpius: We'd love to recruit more St. Louis students and would like your readers' ideas on how we could do this. MU has recruitment events in the city so that's one way to connect. We launched a new student development, diversity and recruitment program last fall and would love to have St. Louis students involved. We offer two summer journalism workshops in the summer.

Both the Missouri Urban Journalism Workshop and MediaNow Mizzou give students a taste of media work and identify career options in this field. We'd love for you to visit us in Columbia – families, high school groups. And, invite us to events you're hosting here.

The St. Louis American: How have the budget cuts affected the school?

David Kurpius: Budget cuts are tough, and no one ever wants to cut. We had 12 faculty and staff retire this year, and two are pursuing other opportunities. While these losses will hurt, the school has worked diligently to protect the student experience and the renowned Missouri Method of hands-on training in our professional newsroom and agencies. The school is able to deliver excellence with even more professors in core classes.

The St. Louis American: What career opportunities are there for students interested in journalism and strategic communication?

David Kurpius: The alumna who spoke at our May graduation ceremony – Marina Walker Guevara, one of the world's top investigative reporters who won the Pulitzer Prize for the Panama Papers – started her comments by thanking students for studying journalism. In her closing words: "Graduates, you could not have chosen a better, more exciting time than now to be a journalist. We are at a crossroads as a society and as an industry. And while we face extraordinary challenges, we have opportunities that our colleagues just a generation ago couldn't have dreamed of."

Today's opportunities look different than those familiar to older generations. Social media, mobile technology, digital offerings and much more create tons of great career opportunities. The media industry would love to hire a more inclusive and diverse workforce. What can I say except – come to Mizzou and the J-School!

The St. Louis American: Anything else?

David Kurpius: Thank you for this opportunity to visit with readers of *The St. Louis American*. Let's keep the conversation going. High schools: Missouri wants to partner with your journalism programs, students and counselors. *The American*: Let's create a targeted internship program. All: Let's build on our good track record with the Emma Bowen Foundation and develop more internships in the state of Missouri.

Competition, poor reputation contribute to Fulton hospital's demise

By BRITTANY RUESS

Fulton and Callaway County officials are searching for ways to keep the local hospital open to preserve emergency care, but residents frequently choose to go outside the county for those services.

Callaway County residents' proximity to hospitals outside its borders and years of stigma against the Fulton hospital might be to blame.

NueHealth, a for-profit health care company, announced last week it will close the Fulton Medical Center by Sept. 22. The company said in a news release that low-patient volume made the hospital's "financial sustainability impossible." Financial records show the hospital experienced monthly loses. A spokeswoman with NueHealth did not respond to a request for comment Monday.

University of Missouri Health Care and Nueterra, now NueHealth, purchased the Fulton Medical Center, formerly Callaway Community Hospital, in 2014 for \$6 million from Atlanta-based SunLink Health Systems, a for-profit company. Before NueHealth's announcement to close the Fulton hospital, MU Health decided to sell its minority stake.

City of Fulton, Callaway County and Callaway Chamber of Commerce officials have been collaborating to find ways to save the hospital. Discussions have covered a possible tax to offset uncompensated care costs and scaling back medical services, but officials said they first must assess what type of health-care facility the community will support.

Though local officials want to keep the hospital open primarily for emergency care, most patients served by the Callaway County Ambulance District go outside the county for that service.

Charles Anderson, director of the ambulance district, said ambulances transport patients 95 percent of the time based on where they choose to go and they opt to travel outside Callaway County for care.

This year, 11 percent of patients have chosen to go to the Fulton Medical Center, he said. That's down from 20 percent in 2012. Many patients prefer going to hospitals in Columbia or Jefferson City because their physicians are located there, Anderson said.

Patients suffering from trauma, stroke or a heart attack must be transferred to Columbia or Jefferson City hospitals because the Fulton Medical Center does not have physicians or equipment to handle those cases, Anderson said.

If the Fulton hospital closes, Anderson said he expects the district's call times to increase as ambulances more frequently will be driving out of Callaway County. He said the district, which is partially funded by a half-cent sales tax, may need to extend a newly-added 12-hour ambulance shift to 24 hours.

Hospital has faced competition, reputation challenges

Some Callaway County residents have health-care options closer to their homes than the Fulton hospital.

Holts Summit residents have a shorter drive to Jefferson City, where there are two major hospitals. Residents in western Callaway County, which is more densely populated than its eastern edge, also can access Columbia hospitals.

"It's a challenging county when it comes from a health-care standpoint," said Bruce Hackmann, economic development director for the Callaway County Chamber of Commerce. "That's one of the things we have to take into consideration with anything moving forward."

Ben Cornelius, a spokesman for Boone Hospital Center, said the hospital traditionally has 7,000 patients from the 65251 zip code, which encompasses Fulton and central Callaway County. St. Mary's Hospital in Jefferson City, which is operated by SSM Health, provided care to nearly 7,000 patients from Callaway County last year, said Jessica Royston, a hospital spokeswoman.

MU Health has seen an overall increase in Callaway County patients at its five health-care facilities in recent years, MU Health Spokeswoman Mary Jenkins said.

In-patient discharges of Callaway County residents from the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, the Missouri Orthopaedic Institute, the Missouri Psychiatric Center, University Hospital and Women's and Children's Hospital increased from 1,332 in 2011 to 2,069 in 2016.

A spokeswoman from Capital Region Medical Center did not respond to a request for comment.

Callaway County Presiding Commissioner Gary Jungermann said officials still need to determine what residents want from a local hospital or health-care facility. He will meet with Fulton officials and community members privately Tuesday.

Jungermann said there's interest in having a smaller hospital with an emergency room. The idea of a trauma center in Fulton has been nixed because of legalities. But any effort to maintain a health-care facility in Fulton likely would be pointless without a community to back it.

A stigma has surrounded the hospital through decades of ownership changes, Jungermann said, and residents have avoided using it for emergency care and surgeries.

He said he doesn't know what led to the stigma, but Callaway County residents heavily rely on word-of-mouth for recommendations. In Fulton, like many smaller communities, news travels fast.

"Word of mouth here will either make you or break you," Jungermann said.

Hackmann, a lifelong Callaway County resident, said the hospital's reputation has gone up and down over the years.

"Callawegians don't give second chances all the time," he said. "I don't know how much that played into it, but I think it's more of a factor that there are so many strong options in mid-Missouri" for health care.

Missourinet

United beginning service at Columbia Regional; Mayor hopes to create a "medical destination"

By BRIAN HAUSWIRTH

United Airlines will begin daily non-stop service from Columbia Regional Airport (COU) to Denver and Chicago on Tuesday August 1.

Columbia officials note Denver International Airport is one of the top five connected hub airports in the nation.

Treece says United's announcement about Denver and Chicago is great news for Columbia and the region.

"And we're going to have a great day for that first inbound flight from Denver on August 2," Treece says. "The FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) has given us a water cannon, we'll have a little water salute and we're having a ribbon-cutting on that first airplane coming in."

United will also fly from Columbia to Chicago's O'Hare International, starting Tuesday.

Mayor Treece tells MissouriNet it's also great news for inbound flights.

"On August 2 we'll have a direct flight from Denver International coming to Columbia," says Treece. "That's great news for the University of Missouri as well as the city of Columbia and the medical destination that I've been trying to create there with our world-class health care right in our own back yard."

Treece says United's announcement will help with his "medical destination" effort.

"We've got great physicians here, we've got a nuclear reactor that is one of its kind in North America and I really see this being catalytic for Columbia's economy, but I also want it to be a regional asset," Treece says.

Treece tells MissouriNet about 20 percent of Columbia Regional passengers live in Jefferson City, adding that the airport attracts residents from towns like Fulton and Mexico as well.

He says the new flights will give consumers more choices, more seats and more affordable ticket costs. Treece says passengers at Columbia Regional also benefit from free parking.

Columbia voters approved a lodging tax increase last August, from four to five percent. Mayor Treece hopes to break ground on a new terminal at Columbia Regional next year.

American Airlines will continue to fly from Columbia, with daily non-stop flights to Dallas and Chicago.

Treece notes Veterans United and Learfield (the parent company of MissouriNet) have offices in the Dallas area.

Veterans United spokeswoman Lauren Whitney-Karr tells MissouriNet that VU has more than 60 employees at their Irving office. The Learfield office is in Plano.

And starting on Wednesday August 2, there will be four early-morning flights leaving COU within a one-hour window. Travelers are urged to give themselves extra time.

MISSOURIAN

Road construction to continue into the school year

[GINA BALSTAD](#)

COLUMBIA — Parts of Columbia are still in a traffic snarl as construction continues and the start of classes for MU, Columbia College and Stephens College loom just three weeks away.

Different city and campus projects will continue to affect the flow of traffic, especially on Providence Road and Elm and Sixth streets.

Downtown

The Flat Branch Relief Sewer Project is creating a gnarly environment on Elm Street and Sixth Street.

As of Monday, these roads and intersections are affected, according to a city press release:

- Elm Street is closed from Sixth Street to Hitt Street. The intersection at Elm and Eighth streets remains open.
- Sixth Street is closed from Elm Street to Cherry Street. The intersection at Cherry and Locust streets remain open.

The sewer project works to improve several systems, including the sewer system, storm water drains and a steam tunnel for MU, said Erin Keys, a city engineering and operations manager.

"We are improving a 100-year-old sewer system," Keys said. "The storm drainage system is probably about that same age and collapsing. We are trying to make improvement to our community and to the systems so that people can continue to flush their toilets without having to think about what will happen."

During the process, Sterling Excavation & Erection, LLC, tried to minimize the inconvenience to residents by progressing in phases, ensuring there will be an intersection available before moving to the next phase, according to a city news release.

Elm and Tenth streets started to be affected by the construction on Monday, according to the release. The intersection there will most likely be closed, Keys said.

The teams working on the project have gone from working four 10-hour days to now working five 10-hour days in an effort to swiftly finish the project.

"They're just trying to get done as quickly as possible so they can get out of the way," Keys said.

While the goal is to finish the construction on the intersection of Elm and Ninth streets by Friday, completion may be pushed back another week, Keys said.

Finishing work on Elm is estimated to take another two weeks, after which construction will be focused back on Sixth Street, closing Elm Street to Broadway.

During the phase on Sixth Street, updates about what intersections will be open will be posted as press releases [on the city's website](#).

The work on Sixth Street is estimated to take four to six weeks to complete, and then clean up and testing will be conducted in accordance with Columbia Water and Light standards. This shouldn't result in any permanent closures, aside from when the systems are being tested, Keys said.

Keys said residents need to be patient and mindful of safety precautions. Otherwise, they might prolong construction, she said.

When the sewer project is completed, work on the new State Historical Society of Missouri building could keep parts of Elm and Seventh streets closed.

The historical society building is a \$27 million project expected to be completed in Summer 2019, Karlan Seville, communications manager for MU facilities, said in an email.

MU is also participating in the project by contributing funds for repairs and upgrades to a steam tunnel running under Ninth Street to Memorial Union. This is part of construction on Lowry Mall that is scheduled to be done by April 2018, Seville said.

The eastern side of Lowry Mall will be completed October 2017.

With ongoing work and residents ready to move in, the project's contractors have been working with the operators of student housing downtown. Last weekend, parts of intersections were opened to allow for easier access to these buildings, Keys said.

Representatives of three apartment complexes downtown didn't return requests for comment.

Providence Road

Completion of the construction for the Providence Road Improvement Project is scheduled for early fall, said Barry Dalton, spokesman for the Columbia Public Works Department.

"We still need to put in the signals and the crosswalks and finish up the sidewalks on Burnam," Dalton said. "They're out there every day working on it."

There will be lane restrictions on Providence Road from Stewart Road to Stadium Boulevard Aug. 1-3 from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. as improvements are done to the intersection at Burnam Road. The road will go from two lanes to one lane on each side.

A specific date could not be provided because road construction can be unpredictable in lieu of factors such as weather, but construction is on schedule as of Monday afternoon, Dalton said.

"It's more of an art than a science when you're looking at how long a project will take," he said.

The phase at Burnam Road is expected to be completed by Aug. 13. It might be pushed back to early fall, however, Dalton said.

"Right now we are finishing improvements at Burnam and at Kentucky and University Heights," Dalton said. "Then we will move back to the Burnam sidewalk and the traffic signals."

People who live on Burnam Road or in the vicinity will have to plan daily routes for themselves. Since the construction will be completed in phases, one of the streets on the west side of Providence Road will always be open to allow access to the neighborhoods, Dalton said.

"We haven't issued any alternative routes or detours," he said. "We are letting people make their own judgements based on where they live and what they need to do."

The project includes installing new traffic lights as well as removing previous ones, installing a new sidewalk on the south side of Burnam Road and improving access to intersections at Bingham Road and Kentucky Boulevard, as well as at Rollins Street and Brandon Road.

MISSOURIAN

Funding denied for agriculture park

BY SADIE LORRAINE COLLINS, 11 hrs ago

COLUMBIA — The Convention and Visitors Advisory Board denied a funding request from the Clary-Shy Agriculture Park on Monday.

The park's request for \$250,000 from the board was denied due to concerns about its ability to attract tourism in a 4-3 vote. Two other programs, the Norm Stewart Classic and the "We Always Swing" Jazz Series, received part of their requested funding.

The agriculture park is an expansion project in Clary-Shy Park on West Ash Street that will attempt to improve the current farmers market that sets up every Saturday there. It will include an outdoor classroom, farmers market pavilion, play structures and a market music performance area, according to a plan of the park's layout.

Stephanie Bell, one of the board members, said she would enjoy the park, but the investment wasn't in line with the advisory board's goals.

"I loved the farmers market," Bell said. "It was my favorite thing to do in Overland Park, but I would never drive to Overland Park now and do it. I just don't see anyone coming in who isn't already here."

Kimberly Trabue, a board member who voted in favor of the funding, said she was not against the park returning with more information on prospective tourism. She said she would like to see more information on possible events the park could hold.

The funds the park's advocates were asking for would have helped to fund the building where the farmer's market would be.

In addition to the park, representatives from the Norm Stewart Classic and the Jazz Series came to present their projects before the board. The Classic was given \$10,000 of its original \$15,000 request, and the Jazz Series received \$7,500 of its original \$10,000 request.

The [Norm Stewart Classic](#) is an annual basketball event in December at Columbia College held by the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association. The Jazz Series is an all-jazz concert series, producing and educational organization whose primary support comes from ticket revenue and grants, according to [its website](#).

The board members said in the discussion that they decided to support both these organizations because of the tourist revenue and hotel rooms their events could generate.

The board is not the only source of funds for the park. The project has succeeded in raising money from a range of other sources. In May, around \$1.7 million had been raised for the project, with MU Health Care donating the most at \$495,000. The parks sales tax, a sales tax for local parks applied to all retail sales made in Columbia, has donated the second most at \$400,000, said Billy Polansky, executive director of the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture.

“We are going to be creating a local foods destination in the heart of Columbia,” Polansky said. “(A farmers market) is something people are looking for when they travel.”

As of Monday, the campaign had raised a little over \$2.5 million, with \$525,000 made in the last week, he said.



Three weeks until Eclipse 2017

By: Joey Parker

COLUMBIA, Mo. - Eclipse 2017 is just three weeks away!

Not only will it be an amazing experience for young people, but there are ample learning opportunities.

The [Boy Scouts Great Rivers Council](#) is hosting a golf tournament in Jefferson City for the once-in-a-lifetime event.

Players will get a commemorative golf shirt, eclipse viewing glasses and a glow in-the-dark ball so the eclipse does not have to interfere with the pace of their game.

The [Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland](#) is hosting Girl Scouts from all over the country for a learning event in Columbia.

It will include two days of hands-on activities with female professors and students from the University of Missouri's astronomy, physics, and engineering departments.

The Girl Scouts will be meeting at Silver Meadows in Hallsville, just north of Columbia.

Erica Bisig, of the Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland said, "It's about 130 acres so there won't be any light pollution for the girls to worry about. We'll be having s'mores and fun things like that."

ABC 17 will have a live special report from Columbia and Jefferson City on Aug. 21.