

COLUMBIA DAILY
TRIBUNE

Fire cleanup continues at Ellis Library



[Parker Eshelman](#) | [Buy this photo](#)

A damaged desk sits in the inter-library loan department on the first level of Ellis Library on the University of Missouri campus. The damage was the result of a weekend fire set in the library.

By [Brennan David](#)

Cleanup continued today at the University of Missouri's Ellis Library, where staff members and a contracted fire and water restoration crew worked to salvage books, furniture and structural elements damaged in an apparent arson fire early Saturday.



Christopher Kelley

Ceiling tiles, carpet and baseboards have been removed in areas of the basement and first floor of the library to speed up the drying process, said Karlan Seville, University of Missouri Campus Facilities communications manager. Smoke and water damage were the greatest on the bottom two levels, where crews have been working to dry the library and scrub surfaces free of smoke damage and smell.

“The main priority from the start was to get rid of anything wet, so the building can begin drying,” Seville said.

The circulation and the inter-library loan areas were damaged most as a result of water. Damages were mostly limited to the structure, she said, with little damage to books and other resources. Little to no damage is evident on the upper levels of the library.

Ten to 12 staff members worked on preservation efforts of about 80 wet books over the weekend. The books were frozen to stop mold from growing and will be thawed slowly, with dry sheets between pages to sop up moisture.

“Not much loss of valuable items — it’s mostly structural damage,” Seville said. “We were fortunate.”

The State Historical Society of Missouri also is located in the library, where it maintains a collection. There was no damage to its art collection, but about \$10,000 worth of replaceable microfilm reels was damaged.

Christopher C. Kelley, 25, was arrested Saturday on suspicion of second-degree burglary, second-degree arson, two counts of second-degree tampering and seven counts of second-degree property damage in connection with the fire. He was released from the Boone County Jail on a \$13,500 bond. Kelley works part time for the University of Missouri Police Department for special event assignments.

The university plans to reopen the library tomorrow.

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU's Ellis Library staff still cleaning after Saturday morning fire

By Brendan Gibbons, Connie McCollom

September 12, 2011 | 8:21 p.m. CDT



Jim Wedemeier (left), fire investigator, and Pat Jones, head of security at Ellis Library, discuss the the damage from the Saturday morning fire. The cost of the damage is still unknown, but officials hope to have an estimate within a couple weeks. | Jeremy Jardine

COLUMBIA – MU's Ellis Library is set to reopen at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday morning with limited access, despite still-present damage from a fire that started on the building's main floor early Saturday morning.

Christopher C. Kelley, 25, was arrested Saturday on suspicion of second-degree arson, second-degree burglary, two counts of second-degree tampering and seven counts of second-degree property damage in connection with the fire, according to a previous Missourian report.

The sprinkler system that saved much of the library's collection also caused most of the damage. Damaged carpet has been pulled out of many rooms, leaving a sticky residue. Industrial fans were blowing on the floor Monday afternoon to speed up the drying process.

Damage was mostly contained to the first floor, though some water seeped into the basement. Carpet had to be pulled up near the circulation desk and in the access services office, a nearby computer lab and the digital print services room.

Shannon Cary, communications officer for MU Libraries, said library staff won't have an estimate of the damage's cost for the next couple of weeks.

Water dripped through the floor and into the offices and research center of the State Historical Society, said Gary Kremer, the historical society's executive director.

Of the library's nearly 6,000 manuscript collections, two sustained minor water damage, Kremer said; he was not able to confirm which manuscripts they were.

The sprinklers also destroyed some duplicate microfilm reels. Kremer said he could not confirm what those reels contained.

The most significant flooding was in the offices located below the library's circulation desk, near where the fire was started, Kremer said.

"We were very lucky," he said.

The State Historical Society announced today it will reopen its research center to the public at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, according to a news release. Cleanup will continue for the rest of the week.

The inter-library loan, reserve and circulation offices will be temporarily moved, according to a news release.

Cary said that though 70 to 80 books have been damaged, nothing irreplaceable was damaged and staff members are trying to preserve books that were damaged by water.

She said they were unsure how many books will be saved. The damaged books are being kept on the fourth floor in a preservation area.

Library workers came in over the weekend to move files and throw things away, Cary said, while Servpro cleaners spent Monday wiping soot off the walls.

“Staff worked very hard to clean up and went above and beyond the call of duty,” she said.

Julie Rogers, assistant head of security, said they still cannot comment on how the arsonist got in the building but said no one else was in the building at the time. Security looks for anyone who is in the library before it closes, she said.

She could not comment on how the fire was started or if an accelerant was used because the incident is still under investigation.

Cary said book fines will be waved for the time the library was not open. Cary also said the library is providing reference services online through emails or chats. People can also directly call in.

The MU Student Center will stay open until 2 a.m. Tuesday to give students a place to study, according to a news release.



ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

The★Star.
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Campus library to reopen after suspected arson

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS | Posted: Tuesday, September 13, 2011 6:56 am

COLUMBIA, Mo. • A University of Missouri library in Columbia is reopening after a weekend fire caused smoke and water damage.

The small fire broke out at 3:30 a.m. Saturday in Ellis Library's first floor and was contained by the building's sprinkler system before firefighters arrived. The library was set to reopen Tuesday morning

Library employees say the damage was limited to fewer than 100 books in the reserve and circulation areas. The State Historical Society office in the library's basement also had smoke and water damage.

Campus police arrested a 25-year-old man Saturday on suspicion of second-degree arson, second-degree burglary, tampering and property damage. He was released later on bond. Campus police identified him as a part-time employee of the university police department who works special events.

MU picks leader for diversity

Effort includes new bias reporting tool.

By Janese Silvey

Students, faculty and staff on the University of Missouri campus who think they've been subjected to sexist, racist or other inequitable treatment now have a way to officially flag the incident.

The MU diversity office has launched a "See it, Hear it, Report it" campaign encouraging people to report unfair treatment.

The bias incident form, available at diversity.missouri.edu, takes reports of any type of written, verbal or physical threat.

"This is not about being punitive," said Noor Azizan-Gardner, who was named interim chief diversity officer at MU last week. "It's about creating an educational environment where we discuss issues and tackle it in an educated way."

The reporting system comes on the heels of two recent racial incidents on campus.

In February 2010, two students lined cotton in front of the Gaines/Oldham Black Culture Center, and this February, a freshman admitted to spray-painting a racist slur on campus property. The new reporting system allows campus administrators to tackle small incidents "before they become big issues," Azizan-Gardner said.

Azizan-Gardner takes the chief diversity position on top of her job as director of diversity programming and professional development within the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative.

Born in Malaysia, she has been in the United States for three decades and at MU since 1990. She has been involved in Prism, a lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgendered support group, and city diversity committees and has chaired a multicultural committee at Smithton Middle School.

Azizan-Gardner said she is focused on recruiting minority faculty and staff members to better align with student demographics and promoting diversity in curricula.

In May, faculty members voted "no" to a proposal that would have required all students to take a diversity-intensive course. But faculty, Azizan-Gardner said, should "look at the diversity

requirement as a necessary educational tool for students. It's about making them much more competent and prepared when they graduate."

It's unclear how MU Faculty Council will proceed with the diversity course proposal. Chairman Harry Tyrer has met with students and said they're interested in having some sort of diversity experience.

"They are not so much fixed on a course as they are an experience," he told the council last week.

The previous plan would have tagged certain general education courses as being diversity-intensive, which would not have required additional credit hours.

Azizan-Gardner also is taking the helm after the Missouri Students Association launched the "One Mizzou" campaign to promote inclusion on campus. Balancing that concept while preserving ethnic, religious and other minority organizations and events, she said, requires a careful dance.

"There are times when cultural groups want to hang out together and connect and really understand what it means to be, say, Asian-American," she said. "It's important to provide space for that to happen. But that cannot be all that happens on a university campus. At the same time, we need to have many groups of students engage and interact and spend time together to get to know each other."

Reach Janese Silvey at 573-815-1705 or e-mail jsilvey@columbiatribune.com.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Stop smoking; improve your personality, says researcher

HARRY JACKSON JR. • harry.jackson@post-dispatch.com > 314-340-8234 | Posted: Monday, September 12, 2011 5:00 pm

COLUMBIA, MO — Young people who quit smoking show improvements in their personalities, says a researcher at the University of Missouri-Columbia, mainly in the areas of being impulsive and neurotic.

"The data indicate that for some young adults smoking is impulsive," said Andrew Littlefield, a doctoral student in the Department of Psychological Sciences at the university. "That means that 18-year-olds are acting without a lot of forethought and favor immediate rewards ... They might say, 'I know smoking is bad for me, but I'm going to do it anyway.'

Researchers compared people, aged 18-35, who smoked with those who had quit smoking. They found that individuals who smoked were higher in two personality traits during young adulthood:

- Impulsivity, acting without thinking about the consequences.
- Neuroticism, being emotionally negative and anxious, most of the time.

Littlefield found that people with higher levels of impulsivity and neuroticism were more likely to engage in detrimental behaviors, such as smoking, and those who were smoking were more likely to engage in detrimental behaviors.

However, those who quit smoking had the biggest declines in impulsivity and neuroticism from ages 18 to 25, Littlefield said. And those who had a decline in impulsivity were more likely to quit, he said.

So, "If we can target anti-smoking efforts at that impulsivity, it may help the young people stop smoking," he said.

The motives for smoking later in life — habit, craving, loss of control and tolerance — don't appear to be connected to personality traits, he said.

The findings aren't the only answer to why young people smoke, he said. Substance use is still a complex relationship of genetic and environmental factors, Littlefield said.

The study, "Smoking Desistance and Personality Change in Emerging and Young Adulthood," has been accepted by the journal Nicotine and Tobacco Research. The study was co-authored by Kenneth J. Sher, a professor in the MU psychology department.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Kick the butt, improve your personality

ANI | Sep 13, 2011, 02:32PM IST

Quitting smoking not only improves overall health but also enhances your personality, says a new study.

Researchers at the University of Missouri-Columbia found that young people who have quit smoking are less impulsive and neurotic than those who smoke.

"The data indicate that for some young adults smoking is impulsive," said lead author Andrew Littlefield, a doctoral student in the Department of Psychology.

"That means that 18-year-olds are acting without a lot of forethought and favor immediate rewards over long term negative consequences," he added.

The researchers compared people in the age group 18-35 who smoked with those who had quit smoking.

They found that smokers had higher impulsivity and neuroticism levels, while those who quit smoking showed the steepest decline in these behaviors.

"However, as a person ages and continues to smoke, smoking becomes part of a regular behavior pattern and less impulsive. The motives for smoking later in life - habit, craving, loss of control and tolerance - are key elements of smoking dependence and appear to be more independent of personality traits," said Littlefield.

The study has been accepted by the journal Nicotine and Tobacco Research .

COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

MU professor to use \$20,000 grant to promote urban agriculture

By Emily Garnett

September 12, 2011 | 6:27 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Cities around the nation are expressing interest in urban agriculture, and **Mary Hendrickson, MU Extension professor of rural sociology, wants to make it easier to share their experiences.**

She will be assisted by a \$20,000 grant that was recently awarded to Columbia, Kansas City and St. Louis by the Urban Sustainability Directors Network. The cities have directed the money to Hendrickson, who plans to use the \$20,000 to employ a team of graduate students.

"We're going to try to do a scan on what's happening in urban agriculture and how cities are working with it," Hendrickson said.

The grant is distributed annually by the sustainability network, an organization that brings together directors from 44 cities in the U.S., said Barbara Buffaloe, sustainability manager for the city of Columbia.

Hendrickson said her team will survey urban agriculture issues such as zoning policies and food and sale ordinances. The result will be an online database that will allow cities to search and access information about urban agriculture.

"We want to get a better feel for what's out there," Hendrickson said. "That way, if a city somewhere gets a request to do backyard chickens, they can find cities that have done it."

Adam Saunders, president of the board of directors for the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture, sees the value in such a plan.

"I've had the luxury to travel to many places around the country and world and observe many different agricultural uses," he said. "We have a lot to learn from others, and we also have a lot to teach."

He admires programs such as the Intervale Farms Program in Burlington, Vt., where a collection of local farms produce 8 percent of the city's food supply.

"Columbia does pocket community gardens well," Saunders said, "but there's potential for more." He would like to see community plots grow large enough to supply a family with most of their food, and maybe even become capable of large-scale commercial production.

Buffaloe thinks the potential for advancement in urban agriculture is promising. "Urban agriculture is a hot topic right now," she said, "and Missouri is an ag-friendly state."

Grant to fund guide for urban farms

City agriculture is gaining favor.

By Andrew Denney

A group associated with the University of Missouri Extension has received a \$20,000 grant to help would-be urban farmers learn about policy issues faced by their green-thumbed brethren.

Barbara Buffaloe, the city's sustainability manager, said the grant money will be used to create a guide that addresses the barriers urban farmers face throughout the United States. Ultimately, she said, the guide would be used to support the work of urban farmers.

"The idea is to make a healthy population, a healthy planet and also to make sure it is economically viable," Buffaloe said.

Funding from the grant, from the the Urban Sustainability Directors Network, will run through May.

Mary Hendrickson, who works with MU Extension, is director of the Food Circles Networking Project, which is the recipient of the grant money. As urban agriculture picks up in popularity, she said, urban farmers are doing a lot of online discussion on different issues and policies urban farmers encounter. A comprehensive guide, she said, could help to answer some of those questions.

"Really what we want to do is provide them with an idea of what is out there," Hendrickson said.

Adam Saunders, director of the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture, said he will work to help develop the guide. He said he has done some traveling to find how other urban farmers are handling their operations, and he said he has noticed the uptick in popularity for urban farming.

"There is something happening in every town in this country," Saunders said.

Saunders was recently faced with a policy hurdle of his own with regard to the group's farm at 1207 Smith St. The local group wanted to be able to sell its crops at the farm, but the farm was not properly zoned for sales, and residents in the area expressed apprehension about having certain types of commercial zoning in the area.

After the group took part in negotiations with a neighborhood association and city officials, the Columbia City Council approved a rezoning plan July 18 that allowed the group to sell its crops from the farm. "We're farmers. We want to sell what we grow," Saunders said.

Reach Andrew Denney at 573-815-1719 or e-mail akdenney@columbiatribune.com.



Move to take control of theater is win-win

By Bill Clark

A few notes from the world of music and make-believe.

I speak for most Columbians when I say "thank you" to the University of Missouri for taking over the responsibility of managing the Missouri Theatre Center for the Arts.

The decision should solve the problems of the financially troubled Missouri Symphony Society and allow MU to move ahead seeking funds for a music center with greatly expanded and sorely needed classrooms and music practice rooms and a larger recital hall. MU also would no longer need a 1,000-seat performance hall.

We'll know in three years if this is, indeed, a marriage made in heaven.

Plant scientists find insects developing resistance to genetically modified corn

By Emily Garnett

September 12, 2011 | 5:15 p.m. CDT

COLUMBIA — Insect resistance to a genetically modified variety of corn that's been discovered in several Midwestern states hasn't been found in Missouri, local plant scientists say.

Monsanto, the agricultural biotechnology firm based in St. Louis, developed the variety in 2003 to combat the corn rootworm that's long been a problem for farmers in the Midwest.

The corn is equipped with an endotoxin that kills rootworms when they eat the corn. This endotoxin is the product of a soil bacterium called *Bacillus thuringiensis*, or Bt, said Bruce Hibbard, an entomologist specializing in the corn insects with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service.

A recent study by Aaron Gassman, an entomology professor at Iowa State University, found that the Western corn rootworm was evolving resistance to Bt corn in some rootworm populations in Iowa.

"This is the first case of the Western corn rootworm, or any species of beetle, evolving resistance to a Bt toxin in the field," Gassman's study concluded.

While Monsanto has acknowledged the results of Gassman's study, the company said in a news release that it was "too early to tell whether there are implications for growers in the field."

Jim Jarman, an agronomy specialist for MU Extension, said the technique of planting corn continuously in the same field, a common

practice in states like Iowa and Illinois, makes it easier for corn rootworms to develop Bt resistance.

Missouri farmers are more likely to rotate their fields between soybeans and corn every other year, a practice that has kept the rootworm populations in the state from developing this resistance, Jarman said.

"There are yield advantages for both crops in a soybean and corn rotation system in Missouri," Jarman said.

The deciding factor in crop decision is soil quality. In Iowa and Illinois, Jarman said, higher quality soil allows farmers to grow higher yields of corn. As a result, farmers in these states often grow corn in the same field every year.

The rootworm reproduces by laying its eggs into the soil, where they remain dormant until the next planting season. When the farmer plants corn again the next year, the rootworm has a fresh crop to attack. If the farmer plants soybeans instead, the rootworm larvae die, with nothing to feed on, Jarman said.

This practice has served Missouri farmers well, said Wayne Bailey, MU associate professor of plant sciences. Continually rotating fields between soy and corn keeps the rootworm population from becoming highly concentrated. And it's the fields with high populations of rootworms that become breeding grounds for Bt-resistant species.

"It's a pressure factor," Bailey said. "With a high population it just takes a few survivors to start breeding."

Once those survivors mate and combine their Bt-resistant genes, a new, Bt-resistant species begins to gain numbers.

Hibbard said that though crop rotation has kept Missouri fields free from Bt-resistant rootworms, there are other rootworm threats..

A northern strain of the rootworm has developed the ability to remain dormant for more than one planting season, a phenomenon known as "extended diapause." This allows the rootworm to survive in a field that is rotated into soybeans until corn is replanted the next year, Hibbard said.

Likewise, a Western strain of rootworms have developed the habit of flying away from the corn field and laying eggs in nearby fields, some of which will be planted in corn the next year. Some of these rootworm larvae survive and reproduce, and a strain adapted to survive crop rotation emerges.

These crop rotation-resistant rootworms are well documented in Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, but so far, there is no evidence of their existence in Missouri fields, Hibbard said; if the strain does migrate to Missouri, farmers on the state's eastern border, north of St. Louis would probably be the first to see the effects.



Sentence is 45 years for death of MU football fan

Updated 04:12 p.m., Monday, September 12, 2011

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — The suspected triggerman in last year's killing of a college football fan in Columbia has been sentenced to 45 years in prison.

Investigators have identified Daron Peal as the person who shot 22-year-old Aaron Hobson, of Wichita, Kan., outside a convenience store last Oct. 23. Hobson was in Columbia to see his cousin, University of Missouri defensive back Trey Hobson, play in the Tigers' homecoming game.

KMIZ-TV reports Peal was sentenced Monday for second-degree murder and armed criminal action. He pleaded guilty in July.

Two other people have pleaded guilty to lesser charges, and five others await trial.

Aaron Hobson had been attending Kansas City, Kan., Community College, but was planning to return to Prairie View A&M University in Texas for the spring 2011 semester.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Mo. Gov. Jay Nixon's son cited for marijuana possession

BY JAKE WAGMAN — jwagman@post-dispatch.com > 314-340-8268 | Posted: Tuesday, September 13, 2011 12:01 am

Will Nixon, the youngest son of Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon, was cited for marijuana possession over the weekend in Columbia, Mo.

Police were dispatched to a loud party early Saturday morning at an apartment complex a few blocks from the University of Missouri campus.

Officers "found several people standing in the common hallway talking loudly and immediately smelled a strong odor of marijuana," according to a summary from the Columbia Police Department.

A pipe with marijuana in it was in plain view on the coffee table of an apartment, department spokeswoman Latisha Stroer said.

When Will Nixon saw police, he tried to "get rid" of the marijuana by throwing it on the ground, Stroer said. Nixon, 21, was cited along with another University of Missouri student, Nickolas Morehead, also 21.

According to police, Morehead told the officers, as they were writing the citations, that Nixon was the governor's son.

On Monday, Gov. Nixon issued a statement calling the incident "a private matter that will be handled through the municipal process."

"My son is a fine young man, and we will be working through this issue as a family," the governor said in a statement released by his office.

Columbia has among the most lax marijuana laws in the state. Under city code, police are largely prohibited from taking into custody individuals caught with small amounts of pot. Instead, police are instructed to issue a citation at the scene, as was done for Will Nixon.

The maximum fine for such an offense is \$250, although the city ordinance states there should "be a strong presumption" that a suspended imposition of sentence along with drug counseling or community service is the proper punishment.

Will Nixon is the younger of the governor's two sons. According to Mizzou's online directory, he is a junior studying political science. He was also on the school's golf team, but does not appear on the current roster.



Trial set for ex-Tiger Derrick Washington

A two-day trial is set next week for former Missouri running back Derrick Washington.

Washington will stand trial on one count of deviate sexual assault, a class C felony. The court will call a panel of 80 jurors for a trial to begin Sept. 20. Pre-trial motions were heard Monday afternoon.

The felony charge is one of two criminal allegations that led to Washington's dismissal from the football team last year. It accuses Washington of sexually assaulting a sleeping woman while visiting her roommate in June 2010.

The other case involves a domestic violence allegation from an ex-girlfriend who said Washington hit and choked her. That case, a misdemeanor, will not be addressed again in court until after the sexual assault trial. Both cases have been repeatedly postponed.