News Updates

Chernobyl's radioactive 'wildlife preserve' spawns growing wolf population*
Fox News - July 2, 2018
While some studies have found that local wildlife suffered, others have discovered evidence that wildlife has prospered, likely because the exclusion zone — devoid of people — has "become a de facto nature reserve," study lead author Michael Byrne, a wildlife ecologist at the University of Missouri at Columbia, told Live Science.

Similar stories ran nationwide and internationally.

MU hosts youth leadership conference*
KBIA – July 2, 2018
The conference focused on college preparation with MU Admissions conducting workshops for the attendees. Several lawmakers spoke to the students throughout the conference. Representative DaRon McGee, D-Kansas City, told the students he hoped the conference helped them to become leaders.

Column: Insurers must be required to continue covering pre-existing conditions
Tampa Bay Times – July 27, 2018
Robert H. Jerry II, the Isidor Loeb Professor of Law at the University of Missouri and dean emeritus of the Levin College of Law at the University of Florida, teaches and writes in the field of insurance law.

Missouri soybean farmers fear the worst if Chinese tariffs go into effect
St. Louis Public Radio - July 2, 2018
"Soybean trade between the U.S. and China is the single largest trade flow in agriculture that we have today," said Pat Westhoff, director of the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute at the University of Missouri.

Pork Industry Hit from All Sides
KAWL (Station in York, Nebraska) - July 2, 2018
Politico says pork checkoff experts struggled to find a bright spot for hog producers in the months ahead. "We’re looking at an awful lot of hogs and an awful lot of pork," says Dr. Ron Plain of the University of Missouri.

Last month was warmest June in Columbia since 1953
Columbia Tribune – July 2, 2018
Long-range forecasts issued Saturday and Sunday by the National Weather Service show most of the country, including Missouri, should expect to remain above average in July. Tony Lupo, chair of atmospheric science at the University of Missouri, said he doesn’t expect another month of record or near-record heat.
Mountain lions went extinct in Missouri in the 1920s. They may be making a comeback
Kansas City Star – July 3, 2018
“Mountain lion populations are expanding in the Western U.S. and are slowly but steadily moving eastward,” said University of Missouri wildlife biology researcher Matthew Gompper. “We’re in the very early stages of mountain lion populations settling into the region.”

Say goodbye to smoking, vaping or using tobacco anywhere at KU
Kansas City Star – July 3, 2018
University of Kansas students and staff can no longer use tobacco or vaping products on school grounds under a new policy pushed by health-conscious students and embraced by administrators looking to stay competitive. The University of Missouri has been smoke-free since 2013. University of Missouri-Kansas City became smoke- and tobacco-free a year later.

University of Missouri System

State unable to transfer withheld funds before fiscal year ended
Columbia Tribune – July 2, 2018
In a statement, UM President Mun Choi did not express any disappointment in not receiving money that had not been expected. Instead, he focused on the reason for the late release – a surge in sales and income tax collections. "We were very pleased to see that Missouri’s economy is growing faster than expected—that is great news for all Missourians,” Choi said.

Bringing businesses to Missouri is essential to make ‘economic pie bigger’
The Kansas City Star - July 2, 2018
David Steelman, an attorney, former legislator and member of University of Missouri Board of Curators: "Businesses can bring an opportunity for growth in all areas important to Missouri including education and infrastructure. Plus I believe in the dignity of work."

University of Missouri-Kansas City

Missouri’s McCaskill faces critical Supreme Court vote
Associated Press – July 2, 2018
UMKC Political Science Department Chair Beth Vonnahme is quoted in the article.

ART + SCIENCE: MAGIC: Elijah Gowin
Lenscratch – July 2, 2018
Elijah Gowin is a Professor in the Department of Art and Art History where he directs photographic studies.

10 legal experts on the future of Roe v. Wade after Kennedy
Vox.com – July 2, 2018
UMKC law professor Doug Linder was quoted.

Parson makes six appointments to various boards and commissions
The Missouri Times – July 2, 2018
UMKC alumnus Vernon Scoville was appointed to the Jackson County Board of Election Commissioners. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from UMKC.
This student-designed Mars rover is ready to take on the red planet

CreateDigital.org (Australia) - July 1, 2018
Nova Rover was one of 36 teams from 10 countries to secure a place in the competition finals. The Australian team finished in fourteenth place, with first place going to Czestochowa University of Technology in Poland, and second to defending US champions Missouri University of Science & Technology.

The Jaggis: Midstream’s Family Affair
Midstream Business - July 2, 2018
They say the midstream industry is a small, tight-knit link in the energy chain. Maybe so, and certainly none of the sector is more tightly knit than the Jaggi family. … Besides a name, they share two other attributes: All three are engineers by training and graduates of Missouri University of Science and Technology.

University of Missouri-St. Louis
Optometry students co-host ‘Lunch Date with Rachel and Kate’ podcast*
UML Daily - July 2, 2018
Hamm and Simpson, fourth-year College of Optometry students at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, have been co-hosts of the eponymously named “Lunch Date with Rachel and Kate” podcast since March. Hamm was to do most of the heavy lifting for their eighth episode, a chronicle of her time at the annual gathering of thousands of optometrists and optometry students from around the country, and Simpson presented her manifesto of goals for Hamm at the conference.

His Brother’s Keeper
The Atlantic - July 2, 2018
Still, Richard Rosenfeld, a professor at the University of Missouri at St. Louis who has researched the Ferguson effect, says that serious academics shouldn’t dismiss the possible influence of “de-policing” because of its political inconvenience. “At least in the cases of Baltimore and Chicago, we saw a correspondence between some pullback by the police and an impact in homicide and perhaps other violent crime,” he says. But, “in subsequent research on 50 large U.S. cities, I have found no significant relationship between rising homicide and falling arrest rates. Baltimore and Chicago may have been isolated cases.”

Two more suspects charged in MetroLink attack
St. Louis Post-Dispatch - July 2, 2018
Terrance Taylor, 18, of the 1400 block of Midland Boulevard, and Damian Wilford, 18, of the 3900 block of Canterbury Drive, are the latest suspects arrested in connection with the attack that took place on a train traveling westbound between the St. Charles Rock Road and the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus.

U. City Library Survey Includes Questions About Proposed Tax Hike
Patch.com - July 2, 2018
The survey is being administered by researchers at the University of Missouri, St. Louis.

Missouri’s rate of opioid deaths decreasing
The Salem News Online - July 2, 2018
The Missouri Department of Mental Health, in collaboration with researchers at the University of Missouri, St. Louis – Missouri Institute of Mental Health, received a grant to expand access to integrated prevention, treatment and recovery support services for individuals with opioid use disorder throughout the state. This grant, known as the Missouri Opioid State Targeted Response is implementing a “medication first” treatment model, designed to increase access to evidence-based medications for OUD.
Parson appoints Webster Groves woman to Bi-State board
St. Louis Post-Dispatch - July 2, 2018
Windmiller is the associate vice chancellor of government and community relations at Washington University in St. Louis. She holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Missouri-St. Louis and a master’s degree in public administration from St. Louis University.

Higher education
Student Needs Have Changed. Advising Must Change, Too.
Chronicle of Higher Education – July 3, 2018
Shelbie Walker remembers the delight she felt on being accepted into the pre-nursing program at the University of Oklahoma.

Ousters on President’s First Day
Inside Higher Ed – July 3, 2018
The University of Oklahoma’s new president waited out the weekend before shaking up the leadership team he inherited.

*Story generated by efforts of the university’s PR team.*