



## MIDMISSOURI

### Test drives to benefit local students

The Jefferson City High School Student Council and Leadership Class will receive \$20 for each car test driven at the Mike Kehoe Ford Southwest Boulevard lot from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday.

The "Mike Kehoe Ford Drive One 4UR School" also will add \$10 for every Ford Focus driven.

### Baseball Booster Club to hold benefit BBQ

The annual Jefferson City Jay Baseball Booster Club BBQ fundraiser will be held 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday.

Barbecued pork steak and bratwurst dinners will be served with baked beans and potato salad at Hy-Vee grocery store.

Tickets are available from Jay baseball players and at the BBQ for \$8 each.

### Jay Band benefit slated Thursday

The annual Jay Band BBQ will be Thursday.

Barbecued pork steak, potato casserole, green beans and homemade cinnamon rolls will be served from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Jefferson City High School cafeteria.

Performances will be held at Adkins Stadium beginning at 6 p.m. with the seventh-grade band, the eighth-grade band at 6:15 p.m., drumline at 6:45 p.m. and the marching band at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$8.

In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held in the high school cafeteria and gymnasium.

### Fatima marching band places first

The Fatima High School "Comet Pride" marching band, under the direction of Ray Cardwell, placed first in the Class B Division at a competition in Washington, Mo.

Cuba High School placed second; Hermann High School placed third; and Steelville was fourth.

The Fatima Drum Line also received an award for outstanding drum line in the same division.

Tell us about your event or news! You can submit stories for News Tribune briefs by e-mailing them to [nt@newstribune.com](mailto:nt@newstribune.com). If you prefer to submit items via hand delivery, e-mail, fax or mail, call Mary Fischer at 761-0240 for assistance.

## COMINGEVENTS

### TODAY

- Free Community Meal, 5-6 p.m., Holts Summit Civic Building.
- Taos Board of Aldermen, 7:30 p.m., City Hall.
- St. Thomas Board of Aldermen, 7 p.m., City Hall.
- Cole County Farmers Market, 4-6 p.m., Kmart parking lot.
- Cole County Republican Central Committee hog roast fundraiser, 4:30-7 p.m., American Legion.

### WEDNESDAY

- Anger Management, 1:30 p.m., The Redeem Project, basement of Calvary Baptist Church.
- Village of Wardsville, 6:30 p.m.
- Cole County Historical Society sale in the courtyard, 109 Madison St., 10 a.m.-5 p.m., purses, scarves, jewelry, shoes, paperback books, coats, sweaters, jeans, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas crafts, household items.

### THURSDAY

- Substance abuse/addictions, 1 p.m., The Redeem Project, basement of Calvary Baptist Church.
- Free Community Meal, 5-6 p.m., Holts Summit Civic Building.
- Capital Region Medical Center, 4-6 p.m., parking lot across from Sam B. Cook Healthplex.
- Tebbetts Farmers Market, 3-6 p.m., Community Hall.
- "That Championship Season," Capital City Players, at Shikles Auditorium, 681-9012.
- Cole County Historical Society sale in the courtyard, 109 Madison St., 10 a.m.-5 p.m., purses, scarves, jewelry,

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Post your event in this calendar and online at [newstribune.com/go](http://newstribune.com/go) or by e-mailing the details to [nt@newstribune.com](mailto:nt@newstribune.com). If you prefer to submit items via hand delivery, e-mail, fax or mail, call

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# Plunkett murder trial postponed



Sandra Plunkett  
accused of killing husband

## Prosecution, defense to develop schedule

By Katherine Cummins  
For the News Tribune

The trial for Sandra Plunkett, accused of killing her husband, retired Jefferson City police officer Paul Plunkett, has been postponed to give the defense more time to prepare its case.

Sandra Plunkett, who has been charged with first-degree murder in the New Year's Day shooting death of her husband, was scheduled to

start her trial today, but a request to delay during a pre-trial conference Monday morning means it could be some time before Plunkett is tried before a jury of her peers.

"We have been talking about entering into a scheduling agreement, where milestones — discovery completed, depositions completed, stuff like that — would have to be met (before going to trial)," Callaway County Prosecuting Attorney Chris Wilson explained Tuesday afternoon. "This is a murder case, they're going to need time (to get ready)."

He said Judge Gary Oxenhandler ordered the prosecution and defense Monday to meet and "come to an agreement on a proposed schedule order" to be submitted to the court by Oct. 12.

"From there the judge will take it and review it and probably issue the order," Wilson said.

He said the reason for the delay is the sheer volume of information the defense has to go through — and the amount of time it has had to review that information.

"There was a lot of discovery

Please see Plunkett, p. 4

# Next stop for the cleanup



Kelley McCall/News Tribune



Kelley McCall/News Tribune

Above, Missouri River Relief board member and volunteer Tim Nigh, in red PFD, sits on the edge of the group's barge Monday morning, waiting for the cleanup team's houseboat to depart for Hermann. At right is an assortment of toys and bottles recovered by volunteers while cleaning the Missouri River banks in the Jefferson City over the weekend.

The tugboat 'River Clean Up' pushes the Missouri River Relief houseboat towards its next stop in Hermann after departing the Carl Noren Access on Monday. The Missouri River Relief project is celebrating its 10-year anniversary with the Big Muddy Clean Sweep that began Sept. 10 in Kansas City and will conclude on Oct. 29 at the Confluence in St. Louis. The cleaning team's next stop is Hermann, where they will meet a school group tomorrow morning and host another public cleanup on Saturday. Public cleanup events are scheduled later in the month for Washington and St. Charles.



## Businessman Brunner joins GOP race to battle McCaskill

ST. CHARLES (AP) — St. Louis-area businessman John Brunner joined the Republican field challenging Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill on Monday, highlighting his successes — and failures — in running a company as reasons why he should be elevated from the political unknown to the U.S. Senate.

Brunner declared his candidacy in front of two large American flags hung besides boxes of nail polish remover and petroleum jelly at a distribution facility for his family's long-time business, Vi-Jon Inc. — symbolism intended to stress his experience in creating products and jobs in a campaign likely to focus on the economy.

"Unfortunately, while we have been manufacturing products, our representatives in Washington have been manufacturing debt, manu-

facturing waste, manufacturing red tape while spending away our future," Brunner told supporters gathered for his announcement. "If the label says, 'Made in Washington, D.C.,' it costs too much and does too little."

Brunner, 59, of the St. Louis suburb of Frontenac, is the third Republican seeking to challenge McCaskill in Missouri's 2012 Senate race, which is one of the top targets nationally for Republicans hoping to regain a Senate majority. Already in the field are former state Treasurer Sarah Steelman of Rolla and U.S. Rep. Todd Akin, who represents part of suburban St. Louis.

All three Republican candidates have sought to link McCaskill to President Barack Obama, who narrowly lost Missouri in 2008. But Brunner brings a new element to the race: the ability to spend millions



John Brunner announces his candidacy for U.S. Senate on Monday.

of his own dollars to broadcast his message. Brunner said he expects a Republican primary could cost

Please see Brunner, p. 4

## More than 19K sign puppy mill petition for White House

News Tribune

Less than 10 days since its filing, a petition submitted to the White House asking President Obama to crack down on puppy mills gathered more than 10,600 signatures.

That's double the threshold needed to assure an official response.

The Humane Society of the United States, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) and the Humane Society Legislative Fund.

The groups submitted this petition using a new feature on the White House website

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