

## Mizzou Weekly

Sept. 1, 2011 Volume 33, No. 2

### **Campus departments collaborate to handle game-day traffic**



**CLOSED FOR REPAIR** Major construction on Monk Drive, which connects Stadium Boulevard and Hospital Drive, has forced the closure of the VA Hospital parking lot, which typically serves Tiger fans on game day. However, a temporary drive will provide easy access to a parking lot at Stadium and College. Photo by Nicholas Benner

#### CAMPUS FACILITIES

Parking will change for first home game

With Monk Drive expected to remain closed until mid-October, Campus Facilities is working with MU Police to ease traffic problems around Memorial Stadium for the Tigers' first two home football games.

A major utility project in the area has forced the closure of the parking lot of Truman Veterans Hospital, northeast of Memorial Stadium, for this week's game against Miami (Ohio). The VA Hospital lot may also be closed for the Sept. 17 contest with Western Illinois.

However, fans will be able to access parking lot CG-1, at the northwest corner of Stadium Boulevard and College Avenue, from College starting Friday evening. By then, Campus Facilities will have completed a temporary drive that connects CG-1 to College. The lot will be open to both northbound and southbound traffic off College before the game. Drivers will be required to turn south onto College, toward Stadium, when they exit after the game.

Maj. Doug Schwandt of MU Police said the department, as usual, will work with the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Columbia Police, Campus Facilities and MU Parking and Transportation Services to coordinate game day traffic.

The department has been staffing traffic lights at two key intersections especially impacted by Monk Drive's closure, Schwandt said. Officers have been manually changing traffic lights from 3-6 p.m. at Hospital Drive and College Avenue and at Hospital and Virginia Avenue since classes began Aug. 22.

Monk Drive has been closed since June 27 so Campus Facilities could replace a major storm sewer pipe. Failure of the 54-inch pipe, which dates back to the late 1950s, could have flooded the south end of campus, including the VA and University hospitals and the Hearnes Center, in the event of a large storm.

Greg Watts, director of facilities operations, said Campus Facilities replaced the old pipe, which originally ran underneath the VA Hospital parking lot, with a new 78-inch pipe installed beneath Monk Drive, along with a new steam tunnel.

“We’ve been monitoring the storm sewer pipe for well over 10 years,” Watts said. “We finally got to the point where it was in jeopardy of failure.”

The university’s utility work in Monk Drive is expected to be finished this week. The VA, per an agreement with the university, is responsible for rebuilding and repaving the road.

## Issue

- [Campus departments collaborate to handle game-day traffic](#) Parking will change for first home game
- [MU reaches agreement to lease Missouri Theatre, with option to buy](#) Venue will ease demands on Jesse Auditorium
- [Staff Advisory Council welcomes new members, officers](#) Five retiring members also recognized
- [MU study finds link between exercise and late-life diabetes](#) Active lifestyle can lower risk factors
- [Visual media scholar is new director of MU Honors College](#) Nancy West wants fuller experience for students
- [Discovery lecture on “Lucy”](#)
- [9/11 revisited](#)
- [Talking diversity](#)
- [Tigers for tigers](#)

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Published by Mizzou Weekly, 407 Reynolds Alumni Center, Columbia, MO 65211 | Phone: 573-882-7357 | E-mail: [MizzouWeekly@missouri.edu](mailto:MizzouWeekly@missouri.edu)

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### **MU reaches agreement to lease Missouri Theatre, with option to buy**

#### TOWN-GOWN PARTNERSHIP

Venue will ease demands on Jesse Auditorium

The University of Missouri has reached an agreement to lease and manage Missouri Theatre in downtown Columbia for three years, with an option to buy the historic property in 2014.

The university will pay \$12,000 per month to lease the theatre, which is currently owned and operated by the Missouri Symphony Society (MOSS). Built in 1928, the 1,216-seat theatre was renovated in 2008. However, MOSS has struggled to pay down loans related to the renovation. The organization shut down the theater for a time and has also let go staff.

MU will use the theatre for School of Music events, some University Concert Series events, commencements and student-related programs, including Summer Welcome and Greek Week. The 1,732-seat Jesse Auditorium now averages 230 events per year and can no longer meet the increasing demand for its use.

Michael J. O'Brien, dean of MU's College of Arts and Science, called the Missouri Theatre "a magnificent facility that has been nurtured with great care.

"As our music faculty seeks to provide the best learning environment for our students, the Missouri Theatre offers a venue that is very attractive and versatile, while enabling MU to avoid duplication of performance facilities already in existence right down the street," O'Brien said.

MOSS will continue to use the theatre for its offices and to house the Missouri Symphony Orchestra, the Missouri Symphony Conservatory, the Plowman Chamber Music Competition and the Piano Showcase.

Carole Sue DeLaité, co-president of MOSS, said the not-for-profit organization will continue efforts to expand its audience through chamber music outreach and youth music education programs. The Missouri Symphony Orchestra is the region's only professional resident symphony orchestra and is composed of musicians from around the world.

DeLaité said the agreement with MU will put the society in a better position to focus on its core mission of enhancing and increasing cultural awareness of classical music in the community through professional performances, the education of young musicians and by preserving the theatre.

"The Missouri Symphony Society Board is excited about the opportunities that will be offered through this agreement with the University," DeLaité said "Its assistance in managing the Missouri Theatre will assure this local treasure is preserved and available as a community resource. This will strengthen MOSS and ensure the future vitality of the Society's music programs such as Hot Summer Nights and our Conservatory."

After three years, MU will have the option to purchase the theatre for \$3.7 million. The lease, which will be funded by a campus rental account used to secure physical space for the university, does not require approval by the UM Board of Curators. Curators would have to approve the purchase.

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- [MU study finds link between exercise and late-life diabetes](#) Active lifestyle can lower risk factors
- [Visual media scholar is new director of MU Honors College](#) Nancy West wants fuller experience for students
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### **Staff Advisory Council welcomes new members, officers**

#### SERVICE

Five retiring members also recognized

University of Missouri staff members have chosen four new members to serve on the campus's Staff Advisory Council, and have elected a new slate of officers for 2011-12.

The new members, who will serve three-year terms, were introduced at the council's annual staff advisory recognition luncheon on Sept. 1 in the Reynolds Alumni Center.

The newest members are:

- David Champlin, graphic artist II, Student Auxiliary Services;
- \* Jason Harris, grounds keeper, Campus Facilities;
- Pam Monroe, administrative assistant, Undergraduate Research;
- Donna Stearns, grants and contracts administrator, College of Veterinary Medicine.

Council member also welcomed newly elected officers. Angel Anderson, executive staff assistant I with the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative, will serve as chair this year. Katrina Moning, grounds keeper II, Campus Facilities, is the new vice chair; and Tom Bowling, executive staff assistant I, Sinclair School of Nursing, was elected recorder.

The luncheon was also a chance to thank five retiring members of the council for their service: Diane Bartley, Becky Stafford, Marijo Dixon, Stanley Hughes and Hannah Nevius.

MU's Service Champions for the 2010-11 academic year were also honored. The monthly Service Champions are employees who demonstrate an exceptional work ethic and attitude. They are nominated by faculty, staff and students and chosen by the council.

Service champions for the past year are: Patridia White, Campus Facilities; Joey Riley, Space Planning and Management; Danny Patterson, Bond Life Sciences Center; Stan Gallihugh Jr., Cashier, Payroll and Student Loan Office; LaDora Rogers, School of Journalism; Devon McTye, Accounting Services; Mary Pixley, Museum of Art and Archaeology; Lori Hall Jones, Human Environmental Sciences; Lauri Garman, Cashier, Payroll and Student Loan Office; Amber Neely, Animal Sciences; Shirley Holdmeier, Electrical and Computer Engineering; Cynthia Travis, Cashier, Payroll and Student Loan Office; and Lindsey Gentry, Office of Medical Education.

The 16-member Staff Advisory Council was formed in 1978 to serve as a liaison between MU staff and the administration. The council coordinates the annual staff recognition week and administers programs like the staff development awards and the educational endowment program.

More information about these programs and the ways staff can contact council members is available at [staffcouncil.missouri.edu](http://staffcouncil.missouri.edu) (<http://staffcouncil.missouri.edu/>).

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### **MU study finds link between exercise and late-life diabetes**

#### EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY

##### Active lifestyle can lower risk factors

A chronic lack of regular physical activity may play a key role in the development of type-2 diabetes, according to a new study by an MU researcher.

John Thyfault, an assistant professor in MU's departments of Nutrition and Exercise Physiology and Internal Medicine, has found that ceasing regular physical activity impairs glycemic control of blood sugar levels.

Thyfault studied the relationship between low levels of physical activity and elevated levels of postprandial glucose (PPG), or the spikes in blood sugar that occur after a meal. PPG is a risk factor for the development of type 2 diabetes and has been associated with increased incidences of cardiovascular disease and death. Thyfault found that when healthy individuals reduced their physical activity by about half for three days, their PPG responses to meals doubled.

"A single bout of moderate exercise can improve the way the body maintains glucose homeostasis (blood glucose regulation) and reduce PPG, but becoming inactive for a short period of time quickly disrupts glucose homeostasis," Thyfault said. "This study shows that physical activity directly impacts health issues that are preventable."

In the study, Thyfault monitored the activity levels and diets of healthy and moderately active young adults. Participants then reduced their physical activity by 50 percent for three days while replicating the diet they consumed when they were active. Continuous glucose monitors worn by the subjects during the period of inactivity revealed significantly increased levels of PPG. Spikes in blood glucose after meals can indicate increased risks for type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

"It is recommended that people take about 10,000 steps each day," Thyfault said. "Recent evidence shows that most Americans are only taking about half of that, or 5,000 steps a day. This chronic inactivity leads to impaired glucose control and increases the risk of developing diabetes."

Nearly 80 million American adults have prediabetes and will likely develop diabetes later in life, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. As the number of people diagnosed with diabetes continues to grow, researchers are focusing on discovering why the prevalence of the disease is increasing.

"We now have evidence that physical activity is an important part of the daily maintenance of glucose levels," Thyfault said. "Even in the short term, reducing daily activity and ceasing regular exercise causes acute changes in the body associated with diabetes that can occur before weight gain and the development of obesity."

The study, "Lowering Physical Activity Impairs Glycemic Control in Healthy Volunteers," will be published in *Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise*. It was funded by the University of Missouri Institute for Clinical and Translational Sciences, the MU Research Council and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

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### Visual media scholar is new director of MU Honors College

#### UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Nancy West wants fuller experience for students

Nancy M. West, a member of the University of Missouri Department of English since 1995, has been named the director of the Honors College at MU.

West joined the Mizzou faculty as an assistant professor in 1995, became an associate professor in 2001 and was promoted to full professor this year.

West, who was chair of the English department from 2004-07, replaces Stuart Palonsky, who retired as director of the Honors College after 20 years in the position.

"I'm thrilled to be serving MU as the director of the Honors College," West said. "The Honors College has an extraordinary staff, who work very hard to enrich the academic lives of students. I look forward to collaborating with them—as well as faculty, departments and programs across campus—to build an even more dynamic, more visible college."

West brings to the position an award-winning record of undergraduate and graduate teaching. She earned the William T. Kemper Award for Outstanding Teaching in 2004 and received two Gold Chalk Awards for Excellence in Graduate Teaching. Last spring, she was honored with the Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor Award.

"We are so fortunate to have someone like Dr. West here at Mizzou," Jim Spain, vice provost for undergraduate studies, said. "She is so enthusiastic and so compassionate when it comes to teaching and working with students. She genuinely cares about the students and is well-respected by the students and faculty on this campus."

A scholar of visual media, West places high value on interdisciplinary work, collaboration and public scholarship. Her first book, "Kodak and the Lens of Nostalgia" (University of Virginia Press, 2000), led to TV appearances on the BBC and PBS as well as invited talks at such museums as The National Gallery of Art. She recently completed another book, "Tabloid, Inc.: Crimes, News, Narratives" (Ohio State UP, 2010), with Penelope Pelizzon, a former graduate student in the English department. West is currently working on a cultural history of America's longest-running dramatic series, "Masterpiece Theatre."

West's vision for the college is to provide MU students with an even fuller honors experience, involving close interaction with faculty, independent research, service learning, and civic participation.

"We have amazing students at MU," West said. "They are already conducting original research with faculty here and abroad, and working with campus and community programs to improve or enrich the lives of those around us. One of the Honors College's most important responsibilities should be to forge more such connections for our students so that they'll have even more opportunities to put their talents to use. And we need to promote these accomplishments widely. I want people across campus, across Missouri and across the world to know the extraordinary things they're doing."

— *Josh Murray*

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### Discovery lecture on “Lucy”

Carol V. Ward, an integrative anatomy professor at MU, will give the eighth annual 21st Century Corps of Discovery Lecture on Sept. 6 at 3:30 p.m. in Jesse Wrench Auditorium.

Ward will discuss how a sudden burst in fossil discoveries has provided a better understanding of humans’ evolutionary past. Her research focuses on the evolution of humans, apes and monkeys using fossils from East and South Africa. Recently, Ward has studied a 3.2 million-year-old foot bone from a species known as “Lucy,” which led to the discovery of the origin of the arch in foot bones today.

Ward’s lecture will be followed by an ice cream social.

Discovery lectures, featuring some of the most innovative minds of this century, commemorate the contributions of the Lewis and Clark expedition and unite the MU community at the beginning of each academic year.

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### 9/11 revisited

The MU International Center, along with the Transatlantic Center and Canadian Studies program, will host two events to commemorate the tenth anniversary of 9/11.

Kristiaan Versluys, director of education at Ghent University in Belgium, will present a lecture entitled “9/11: The Discursive Responses” on Sept. 7 at 3 p.m. in the Fred W. Smith Forum in the Reynolds Journalism Institute. Versluys is a well-known scholar in urban studies, with a focus on American urban fiction. His most recent book examines five post-9/11 novels. His lecture is co-sponsored by the MU Transatlantic Center.

Brian Herman of the Canadian Consulate in Chicago will discuss “A Decade of Evolving Partnership: The Canada-U.S. Relationship from 9/11 to Today” on Sept. 8 in the Fred W. Smith Forum. Herman will present a video featuring prominent Canadians sharing messages of support and solidarity for the American public on the anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy and reflect on the relationship of these two countries as friends and allies over the past ten years.

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### Talking diversity

Students, faculty and staff are invited to the first You in Mizzou dialogue session, “Immigration Today: Time to Break the Myth,” on Sept. 7 at 7 p.m. in S203 Memorial Union.

The You In Mizzou program is designed to give MU students, faculty and staff the opportunity to learn about a variety of hot topic issues. The program challenges participants to respectfully discuss their differences and discover their similarities in a safe environment.

For more information, visit [diversity.missouri.edu/](https://diversity.missouri.edu/), contact Yuan Gao at [ygbvc@mail.missouri.edu](mailto:ygbvc@mail.missouri.edu) or call the Chancellor’s Diversity Initiative at 882-2714.

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## Tigers for tigers

The tiger habitat at Springfield's Dickerson Park Zoo will now be known as the Mizzou Tiger Reserve, in honor of a program started by MU students to protect the big cats in the wild.

The naming ceremony for the habitat, which is home to a pair of Malayan tigers named Jalil and Petra, was part of a Mizzou Update for alumni and friends of MU on Aug. 24 in Springfield.

Mizzou Tigers for Tigers, the university's mascot conservation program, dates to 1998. By generating support for Missouri's own zoo tigers, student leaders seek to raise awareness on behalf of wild tiger preservation around the world.

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