



Cory W. MacNeil/
News Tribune

ABOVE:
Members of
the 360 Stars
perform
Saturday in
the Lincoln
University
Homecom-
ing parade.
LEFT: Mem-
bers of the
Jefferson
City Lions
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out candy
during the
parade.

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 6, 2024

VOL. 96, NO. 38

WWW.NEWSTRIBUNE.COM

Highlight of a fun week

Lincoln's
Homecoming
festivities hit
high gear
with parade

Joe Gamm

jgamm@news-tribune.com

Lincoln University's Homecoming events built excitement all week.

And the annual buildup always hits a fever pitch with the parade.

Saturday was no exception, as more than 100 entries and seven bands signed up for the annual event, considered a "jewel in the crown of Homecoming Week."

Musicians in the Moor Wardship Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Missouri gathered from all across the state for a weekend of celebration.

Marie Galtan, public relations specialist for the grand lodge, said many of the members have actually graduated from Lincoln and understand how important attending the university was for them.

"We see different groups of people along this route," Galtan said. "We start the route in front of the Capitol and have different groups of people cheering as we — Blacks, whites and different organizations. It makes us feel good just being in the parade because everybody is cheering us on."

According to the Prince Hall website, its mission is to help reduce fiscal obstacles that pre-

jgamm@news-tribune.com


Gary W. MacEachron
News Tribune

ABOVE: Members of the 360 Stars perform Saturday in the Lincoln University Homecoming parade. **LEFT:** Members of the Jefferson City Lions Club hand out candy during the parade.



Council to weigh Google Fiber lease, playground grant

Stephi Smith

ssmith@news-tribune.com

The Jefferson City Council will vote on three resolutions Monday to authorize a housing license agreement with Google Fiber, approve a grant application to fund a playground at Bluder Park and amend a financial services agreement to include the downtown conference center project.

The City Council will meet 6 p.m. Monday at City Hall.

Resolutions

The City Council approved a license agreement with Google Fiber earlier this year, allowing the Internet service company the right to install its broadband

network in Jefferson City.

Rachel Merko, Google Fiber's head of local government affairs, said in February she expects the first Google Fiber systems in Jefferson City will begin early 2025.

The resolution on Monday's agenda would allow Google Fiber to maintain an equipment housing site on city property for the next 10 years. The site would be at the southeast corner of Stadium Boulevard and Monroe Street — which is currently an empty lot — and Google Fiber would pay an annual fee of \$1.50 per square foot.

The second resolution would

ssmith@news-tribune.com


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Participants in the Race to the Dome carry their boat up the beach Saturday at Noren Access.

Candidates offer differing views on housing, child care

Stephi Smith

ssmith@news-tribune.com

Despite coming from different districts and political parties, area candidates for the Missouri House agreed the state should have a role in addressing child care and housing needs of Missourians.

They just disagree as to what those solutions might look like.

The candidates offered their ideas as to how to proceed Wednesday during a News Tribune candidate forum.

Appearing at the forum were incumbent Republican Dave Griffith, who is running for re-election for the District 66 seat; Democrat Jamie Howard, who is running against Griffith; incumbent Republican Jim Schulte, who is running for re-election for the District 69 seat; Democrat Jessica O'Neal-Sloan, who is running against Schulte; and Republican Rudy Veit, who is running unopposed for re-election for the District 59 seat.

Child care

Howard referenced policies in Louisiana and Montana that reduced the cost of child care for parents and provided through public-private partnerships.

"And these are not states, so, I mean, these are policies that Republicans are also championing," he said.

He said finding a solution to child care is a "multi-faceted approach" and would require not just those partnerships, but looking deeper into how to provide affordable child care to all state residents and not just employees of particular companies.

He added that Missouri should reduce some regulatory barriers on child care facilities to make it easier for those places to get licenses and begin operations soon.

"We don't have to sacrifice safety. We

ssmith@news-tribune.com

Kayaks, canoes race to town

Joe Gamm

jgamm@news-tribune.com

Caren Elliott is a veteran kayaker. The Columbia woman has participated in the Missouri River 500 three times.

On Saturday, she participated in the Race to the Dome, a much shorter canoe and kayak race in which participants can choose to launch from the Providence Access (25.6 miles) or Hannsberg (35.8 miles).

She chose the shorter of the races in her fourth time racing to the Capitol.

jgamm@news-tribune.com