

**UNSUNG HEROES**

These people often go unnoticed, but the work they do makes life livable for the rest of us. We tell the stories of several people who do thankless tasks.

**SOAK UP THE SUN**

Vox compiled 14 local activities to get you and your family out and about this summer. Our list includes pickleball, electric-car racing, kayaking and more.

**TELL ME A STORY**

Lounging doesn't have to be a waste of time. Get your book-learning on while you relax with one of expertly picked suggestions for well-narrated audiobooks.



# MISSOURIAN

Thursday, May 29, 2014 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1908 ■ Join the conversation at ColumbiaMissourian.com ■ 50 cents



Janice Sevre-Duszynska, priest and member of the Association of Roman Catholic Women Priests, spoke to community members and celebrated Mass at St. Francis House on Wednesday. They also watched a documentary that detailed how women are working to gain equality with men in the Roman Catholic Church.

Photos by T.J. THOMSON/Missourian

## Speller will advance to semifinals

By **TRACY COOK**  
news@ColumbiaMissourian.com

His name was fourth from last to be called as a semifinalist for the 2014 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Upon hearing his name, Speller No. 132 hurried down the aisle toward the stage to receive his medal and stand beside the other semifinalists.

Gentry Middle School's Faaris Khan was one of 46 spellers who advanced Wednesday to the semifinals of the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

His advancement came after he correctly spelled "pedigerous," which means "having feet," and "susceptible" in the third and second rounds, respectively.

**Say what?**

**What Faaris Khan spelled Wednesday:**

**pedigerous** (n.): having feet or legs  
**susceptible** (adj.): easily affected

Those correct spellings were combined with his preliminary test score and were plotted against the scores of other spellers. Faaris' winning word in the local qualifying bee was "Keeshond," which is a dog breed.

Faaris, 13, is one of the competition's eight spellers from Missouri, and the only from Columbia. He is sponsored by the Columbia Daily Tribune.

Because he is in eighth grade, this is Faaris' last year of eligibility.

A Scripps National Spelling Bee veteran, Faaris also competed in the competition in 2011 and 2013. He joins 12 others spellers as a three-year repeater. He is also a four-time winner of his school's National Geographic Bee, where he advanced to the state level twice, according to the National Spelling Bee's website.

Of the 281 spellers competing for the title of 2014 Scripps National

Please see **SPELLING**, page **4A**

**Follow along**

**Semifinals**

**When:** 9 a.m. to noon today

**TV:** ESPN2

**Finals (live broadcast)**

**When:** 7 p.m. today

**TV:** ESPN

## Deigned 'Ordained'

Janice Sevre-Duszynska is part of a movement that tests Catholic traditions

By Alex Bond | news@ColumbiaMissourian.com

In the middle of a living room, a table is set like an altar, with wine and bread prepared for Holy Communion. At the head is a priest dressed in a black shirt, jeans and sandals, hair tied at the back of the head to reveal a gold earring hanging from each ear. She has a deep purple stole around her neck, which rests on her lap as she sits.

This is Janice Sevre-Duszynska, 64, an ordained Roman Catholic priest with one exception: The Roman Catholic Church does not recognize her status as a priest.

Sevre-Duszynska said she and her colleagues do not accept the church's stance on their issue.

"We're leading the church, not leaving the church," she said.

Sevre-Duszynska celebrated Mass on Wednesday night at St. Francis House, an open house for homeless men that is run by the Catholic Worker Movement. She was invited there by Steve Jacobs, 59, who works at the house, while on her way to an event in Kansas City.

The 2011 documentary "Pink Smoke Over the Vatican," about women's right to priesthood, features Sevre-Duszynska. It was played before the Mass.

"I knew there was a place for women on the altar more than just in a coffin or as a bride," Sevre-Duszynska said in the documentary.

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Virginia Bzdek bows her head during a moment of reflection at an evening Mass led by Janice Sevre-Duszynska. Sevre-Duszynska also showed the group "Pink Smoke Over the Vatican," which details women's struggles finding equality in Catholicism.

Please see **ANGELOU**, page **6A**

## Poet, civil rights icon Maya Angelou dies

Columbia community remembers poet for her struggles and success

By **SHELBY CARDELL**  
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MU graduate George Hodgman will never forget the first time he met Maya Angelou. A book and magazine editor who now lives in New York, Hodgman was only 16 when he attended a seminar at Stephens College where Angelou spoke.

Angelou, an iconic African-American poet and an inspiration to many, died at the age of 86, the Associated Press reported early Wednesday. Wake Forest University, where she had been a professor since 1982, issued a statement announcing her death.

Asked how history would view Angelou, Hodgman said "in Maya Angelou's case, history doesn't matter. Maya's power was the spoken voice."

Hodgman remembers being enthralled with Angelou, who was

known as much for her vivifying speeches as for her poetry.

"She was extraordinary," he said. "And to hear her, you were changed."

Hodgman went to all of Angelou's sessions at the Stephens seminar and persuaded hometown friends from Paris, Mo., to come and hear her. He even had a poster signed.

Seven years later, Hodgman heard Angelou speak again at Boston College, where she re-signed

**"We spend precious hours fearing the inevitable. It would be wise to use that time adoring our families, cherishing our friends and living our lives."**

MAYA ANGELOU 1928-2014



**Four MU softball players transfer**

Freshman starting pitcher Casey Stangel and outfielder Sarah Moore, left, are among those leaving the program. Their reasons are not yet clear. **Page 1B**

**VETERANS HEALTH CARE**

A new report suggests 1,700 veterans who needed assistance and medical attention were purposefully kept off the waiting list at a Phoenix veterans hospital. **Page 8A**

**GOOGLE SMART CAR**

Google announced its driver-less vehicle, which it hopes to have on the roads in one year's time. The car has no steering wheel, gas or brake pedals, and a top speed of 25 mph. **Page 8A**

**TODAY'S WEATHER**

**Today:** Mostly sunny with a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.  
**Temp:** 84°  
**Tonight:** Partly cloudy.  
**Temp:** 65°  
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Our 106th year/#183  
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