

NEWS RELEASE: Dec. 16, 2008

### **Public meeting on Kat's Bridge Thursday**

The Greene County Highway Department will host an informational meeting on the future of Kat's Bridge, Thursday, Dec. 18, 6 to 7 p.m., at Center Baptist Church, 5124 N. Farm Road 43, Ash Grove (at the intersection of Farm Road 43 and Farm Road 84.)

Kat's Bridge, also known as Prospect Bridge and Greene County Bridge # 1280033, is a single lane, steel-truss, wood-deck bridge located in western Greene County at the intersection of Farm Road 128 and Farm Road 45. In October, the Greene County Commission renamed the bridge in honor of the late Kathleen "Kat" Ila Gilmartin, at the request of her parents, who live nearby.

Shortly after the bridge was renamed, a routine biannual inspection revealed the bridge to have significant structural issues. The bridge was immediately barricaded and closed to the public.

At Thursday's meeting, the Highway Department will explain why the bridge was closed and outline options for its rehabilitation or replacement. The Highway Department will also discuss how the closure of Kat's Bridge impacts planned improvements on a nearby bridge on Farm Road 45, between Farm Road 136 and State Highway 266. Information presented at these meetings will also be posted online at [www.greenecountymo.org/highway/](http://www.greenecountymo.org/highway/).

Public input will be an important factor as Greene County selects a course of action for these two bridges.

For more information, or to comment on the bridges, contact Duffy Mooney, Greene County Assistant Highway Administrator, at (417) 831-3591. For media inquiries, contact Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at (417) 829-6019 or (417) 379-5713.

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