LOCAL SCENE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

- Warren County Commission, County Administration Building, 9 a.m.
- All Seasons Knitting, Wright City Scenic Regional Library, 10 a.m.-noon
- Kids Club, College United Methodist Church, 3:15-5:30 p.m.
- Pajama Storytime, Wright City Scenic Regional Library, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

 Alcoholics Anonymous, Abundant Life Church, 9 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

• American Legion Post 180 Bingo, Marthasville, 1:30 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

- Al-Anon, College United Methodist Church, 7 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, Fellowship Baptist Church, 7 p.m.
- Choral Arts Singers Rehearsal, Connection Christian Church O'Fallon, 7-9 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

- Warren County Commission, County Administration Building, 9 a.m.
- Preschool Storytime, Warrenton Scenic Regional Library, 10 a.m.
- Chicks with Sticks. War-



WE'VE BEEN GOOD! — Kayleigh Baryo, Stephanie Hertzler and Ann Bender, staff members at Scenic Regional Library in Wright City, got a chance to take a photo with the Big Man in Red while Santa was making stops at libraries in Wright City and Warrenton to visit local children on Dec. 8. Adam Rollins photo.

Federal spending bill ensures continuous coverage for Mo. kids in Medicaid, CHIP

By Clara Bates
MISSOURI INDEPENDENT

Missouri will be required to provide yearlong, continuous coverage for anyone under age 19 enrolled in Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program, as part of a \$1.7 trillion spending package approved by Congress Friday.

In a move advocates have long pushed for as a way to avoid unnecessarily forcing children off the rolls, all states will be required to continue public health insurance coverage of state organizations that advocate for child well-being, about the federal bill.

Kids Win has been pushing for state legislation to provide continuous coverage for children for the last several years. A bill introduced last year that included continuous coverage for kids, sponsored by Democratic state Sen. Lauren Arthur of Kansas City, was voted out of committee but did not proceed further.

Hanson said Kids Win planned to prioritize the issue again, but "it's great

cant Medicaid enrollment declines, including among children, after they adopted a new renewal process and information system.

Research that year by the Missouri Budget Project, a liberal public policy think tank, found families were often kicked off Medicaid despite being eligible for coverage because of challenges with the renewal process, including not receiving the proper paperwork or submitting the paperwork only for it to be lost or not processed.

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