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# Dexter Kiawanis Club BBQ Fundraiser

JUNE 17TH 2011 BY STAFF WRITER

## Dexter Kiawanis Club BBQ Fundraiser

The Dexter Kiwanis Club is busy today selling BBQ Tenderloins and Boston Butts on the Parking Lot of Harps Supermarket. Several club members were on hand, working to help raise funds for the many projects they support locally.

A quick look at the makeup of the Dexter Kiwanis will tell that this group is full of strong, community-minded leaders. On hand for today's for the SMT picture were Kirby Taylor, Bill Aslin, Larry Colvin, Lehman Godwin, Harold Williams.

This is only one of four major events that the Dexter Kiwanis Club is actively involved in. Besides the meat sales, you will find these members annually at the corners of Vine Street & Walnut Street - as well as Business Hwy 60 and Walnut Street - passing out peanuts and accepting donations from the community.

You will also find team members handling the cooking duties for their annual Fall Pancake Day at the Catholic Hall. [images/Blog Images/show/uj12](#)

[images/Blog Images/show/uj18](#) Next is the annual Easter Egg Hunt, held at the West City Park, on the Saturday before Easter. The event is filled with smiles as the kids enjoy prizes and fun.

The Dexter Kiwanis Club is a service club dedicated to improving our community with a strong focus on young people.

You will find their list of supported groups and clubs to be long and valuable to our community: the club awards college scholarships to local students, and offers support to the Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts, Project Prom and many other youth-related activities.

Meetings are held weekly at the American Steakhouse in Dexter, where the club works to increase community awareness of important issues by hosting guest speakers.

Membership in this club is encouraged, and if you wish to join the club, you can contact the Kiwanis at **info@dexterkiwanis.com**.

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## Members of the Dexter Kiwanis Club

*Kiwanis International is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child, one community at a time.*

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# Road Work On I-55 To Detour Traffic

JUNE 17TH 2011 BY NEWS

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Travelers in Southeast Missouri should be aware of three major projects on Interstate 55 that will affect traffic in the region.

A stretch of I-55 will be closed this weekend due to the planned demolition of the Route H Overpass south of Blodgett.

The interstate will be closed from exit 80 at Benton, Mo., to exit 69 at Miner, Mo., for one 24-hour period during demolition of overpass. Traffic will be detoured to U.S. 61 from 9 p.m. Saturday, June 18 to 9 p.m., Sunday, June 19. There will be a potential for delays on U.S. 61. Residents should consider using other alternate routes if possible.

Route H will also be closed from Route HH to Route U as construction of the new overpass proceeds. The Route H closure will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday. Completion is anticipated in mid-August.

North- and southbound Interstate 55 between routes J and Z in Ste. Genevieve County will be reduced to one lane with a 16-foot width restriction June 20 through 24 while MoDOT crews perform bridge repairs. Weather permitting, the work will be done from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The work zone will be marked with signs.

The southbound Interstate 55 ramp in Pemiscot County will be closed so a contractor can make concrete paving repairs. The section of road that will be closed is the ramp from southbound I-55 at Hayti to Highway 84.

The detour, which will be marked with signs, will begin at exit 27 to Route J to Highway 84 and back to I-55 South. Weather permitting, the work will begin at midnight Saturday and is expected to be completed and the ramp reopened by midnight June 27.

For more information, contact the Missouri Department of Transportation's Customer Service Center at 888-275-6636.

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## Local Project Vies For Pepsi Grant

JUNE 16TH 2011 BY NEWS

Local Project Vies For Pepsi Grant

*By Annabeth Miiler,  
ShowMe Times Editor*

What happens when a caring community teams up with a major national product promotion?

If the community is Dexter, then the result could be a local project placing in the top 15 of Pepsi's Refresh Project and receiving a \$10,000 Pepsi Refresh Grant!

This spring Tanya Reiker looked at the playground equipment for pre-school children with special needs at Southwest Elementary. It's a playground that has been pieced together through the years and with a lot of local elbow grease and effort and a big

helping of care and concern. But there was still something needed – some adaptive playground equipment for children with special needs.

Pepsi's "Refresh Projects" program began this spring with voting opening on May 1 for the Pepsi Refresh Project.

Each month, Pepsi is giving away more than \$1 million to 60 ideas that move communities forward. This year, Pepsi is also offering consumers the chance to make their votes go even further for the ideas that they believe will create a better, more vibrant world with Power Voting – using the codes on Pepsi products to help their favorite projects rack up additional points.

Tania Reiker and fellow teacher Peggy Potts thought the idea of submitting a project was a good notion, but putting altogether was a bit daunting. Reiker said she went on a business trip with her husband Jim in April and she spent time studying the project and the process.

"I started working on the grant, and we got excited," she said. She said they figured out to shoot a video and post on YouTube - one of the requirements in the Pepsi program - and maneuvered through the project process with national soft drink bottler.

Reiker said part of the reason for the project is the enormous cost of playgroup equipment and setting up a playground area for children with special needs. Reiker said equipment alone is quite expensive and federal, state and district funds would not cover the total cost of such a project. But the Southwest program did receive a federal grant to help get the playground process started – first by removing pea gravel in the area and then resurfacing the playground.

"There's an adaptive swing that we've always wanted that is \$4,000," she pointed out. "When it all could do with this federal grant money was resurface the area."

In addition to children in wheelchairs, the program will have youngsters using walkers and other equipment. Surfaces with pea gravel or other loose product are not appropriate these children. A substantial surface – yet one that is safe for kids – is want is needed for the new playground.

Plans call for the Pepsi grant money - if the Dexter project wins - is to actually purchase some equipment for the children.

“They take the top 15 vote getters – and there were thousands and thousands,” Reiker said. Then after Pepsi weaned the list to 150 for voting, and the Dexter project made it. By June 1 Reiker and Potts received word the project made the cut and was one of those to be in the voting.

It’s been a gradual process, but as of Thursday the local project was ranked 8th in the voting. The top 15 projects in this category will each receive \$10,000 from Pepsi, with voting ending June 30.

Support is coming from throughout the community – with signs on soft drink machine all over town, and a special collection box at the Dexter Parks Complex, the Aquatic Center, folks “dumpster diving” through trash cans at the park, and collecting bottle caps at the Rib City Classic.

“People are really getting excited and collecting lids,” Reiker said with excitement. “We really, really want some of this adaptive playground equipment. You know, a child in a wheelchair never gets to feel the wind in their hair – a simple thing. But with an adaptive swing – can you imagine?”

**WHAT:** Pepsi Refresh

**LOCAL PROJECT:** "Create a playground appropriate for special needs preschoolers."

**WEBSITE TO VOTE:** <http://www.refresheverything.com/play2learn>

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# Open House At Stoddard County Ambulance

JUNE 11TH 2011 BY STAFF WRITER

## Open House At Stoddard County Ambulance

**Sunday, June 12, 2011**

**1:00 PM to 4:00 PM**

**501 W Bus Hwy 60, Dexter**

You may hope to never need the professionals that work at the Stoddard County Ambulance District (SCAD), but Sunday, June 12th, 2011 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm is a great opportunity for our community to stop by and simply say "Thanks"!!!

Stoddard County Ambulance District will hold an open house tomorrow afternoon, and it is an excellent chance to better understand how fortunate we are in Stoddard County to have this level of emergency response and technology to protect us.

Tours of the new facilities will be conducted throughout the afternoon by staff members. Homemade cakes, cupcakes, cookies and punch will be provided to all attendees throughout the day.

You will quickly see that a facility of this nature was planned out by a group of people that have an incredible understanding for emergency response. From training facilities, to a bunker room, to the most advanced technology in the area, the citizens of our area can rest easy in the event of a disaster that SCAD is prepared and ready to provide the needed emergency services.

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This facility doesn't happen by accident but by strong leadership. There are many leaders within the management team and the board of directors at the Stoddard County Ambulance District. However, everyone will also confirm that the heartbeat of SCAD lies in the heart and passion of David Cooper.



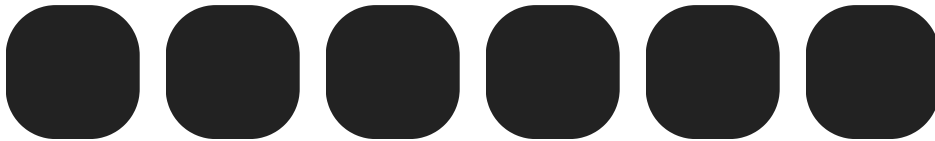
David's passion for excellence and dedication to developing an Ambulance District second to none has quietly been accomplished. His efforts have brought to our community the peace that when you need assistance, help is only a phone call away.

Be sure to take time to drop by the Stoddard County Ambulance District tomorrow for the open house to simply say "Thank You" to these servants to our community.

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## Celebration Held At Calla Lilys

JUNE 11TH 2011 BY NEWS

Celebration Held At Calla Lilys

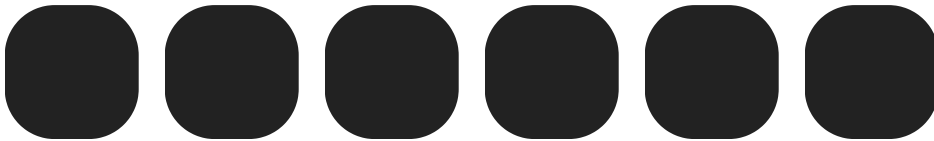
***There was a celebration in Historic Downtown Dexter Friday as the Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon-cutting celebration at Calla Lilys at 11 South Locust Street. On hand for the celebration were (from left) Chamber Executive Janet Coleman, Chamber board member Mendy Bell, Marrienne Bruce of the ShowMe Times, Kandi***

***Jones of Cally Lilys staff and young Hayden Mouton, chamber board member Wes Howard, Dexter City Administrator Mark Stidham, Calla Lilys owner Charlotte Jones and young Brooklyn Mouton, (in back) chamber board member Scott Nelson, chamber board secretary/treasurer Kevin Bishop, Paula Smith, and Deborah Sturgess of Trinkets and Treasures. The celebration was the 11th ribbon-cutting celebration held by the Chamber in 2011. (SMT photo by Annabeth Miller)***

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