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Miss Dexter, Heartland Pageants Planned

JULY 12TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Miss Dexter, Heartland Pageants Planned

A SMT News Report

In a tradition that stretches back more than 70 years, the Miss Dexter Pageant tradition will continue in the community this fall.

The Miss Dexter tradition will continue this Sept. 3, sponsored by the Dexter High School Choral Music Program.

Two separate sets of pageants will be held the weekend of the Labor Day holiday – Miss Dexter Pageants, open to girls in the Dexter Public Schools and set for Saturday, Sept. 3; and the Miss Heartland Pageants for girls from throughout the region on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 4.

The Miss Dexter Pageants include:

- Little Mister and Little Miss, for boys and girls age 3 through Grade 2; 5:30 p.m.
- Petite Miss, girls in grades 3,4,5; 5:30 p.m.
- Junior Miss, girls in grades 6,7, and 8; 6:30 p.m.
- Miss Dexter, girls in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12; 7:30 p.m.

Miss Heartland Pageants include:

- Baby Miss, birth through 17 months; 1:30 p.m.
- Tiny Miss, 18-25 months; 1:45 p.m.
- Wee Miss, 3-5 years; 2 p.m.
- Petite Miss, 6-8 years; 2:30 p.m.
- Pre-Teen Miss, 9-11 years; 2:45 p.m.
- Junior Miss Heartland, 12-14 years, 3 p.m.
- Miss Heartland, 15-19 years, 3:30 p.m.

Pageant wear is required for all pageants. Pageants will be held at the Dexter High School Auditorium, 1101 Grant Street, Dexter. There is no rehearsal and the decision of the judges is final. Parents and family members of contestants are asked to refrain from speaking to judges or risk disqualification of their child.

Entry fee for each pageant is \$25. Entries will not be accepted the day of the pageant.

Entry forms are available at the Bunny Patch in Downtown Dexter. Pageant Director is Jamie Sepulvado.

The first Miss Dexter Pageant was held in the early 1930s and Veda Pruitt was crowned the first queen in a pageant held in the old Weeks Theater in Downtown Dexter (across Stoddard Street from Morgan Furniture). Attendants included Mary Ulen, Elsa Sharon Smith, Pauline Burton and Irene Gaines.

For many years the Dexter Soroptimist Club sponsored the pageants. MaryRuth Boone and the DHS Choir began sponsoring the pageants 15 years ago. Boone added the Miss Heartland pageants for girls not only from Dexter but throughout the region.

The DHS Choir program continues the pageant sponsorship, under direction of Sepulvado, who is assuming the role following Boone's retirement.

The pageants are a fundraising event for the high school choral program.

Photo Above: The 2010 Miss Dexter and her court – Miss Dexter McKenzie Mitchell (center), first alternate Kaycee Dukes (left) and second alternate Miranda Warner (right). A new Miss Dexter will be crowned Sept. 3. (SMT File Photo by Annabeth Miller)

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Medler Honored For American Legion Service

JULY 09TH 2011 BY NEWS

Medler Honored For American Legion Service

Chester (Chet) Medler of Dexter (left) was honored by State Rep. Billy Pat Wright on Thursday night for 60 continuous years of service to the America Legion. Wright presented Medler with a special Certificate of Recognition from the Missouri House of Representatives. The presentation was made at the regular meeting of the Kenady-Hanks Post 59 of the American Legion in Dexter. (ShowMe Times photo)

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Missouri S&T Alum Aboard Final Space Shuttle

JULY 08TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Missouri S&T Alum Aboard Final Space Shuttle

The launch of the space shuttle Atlantis Friday morning, a final chapter in America's space flight program draws to and end. And one of the crew members has a close tie to the Show Me State.

NASA Astronaut Sandra Magnus is a graduate of Missouri S &T at Rolla and is one of the quartet of astronauts on the historic space shuttle flight.

Atlantis rocketed into orbit Friday at 11:29 a.m. EDT and is flying at 17,500 mph around the Earth. The mission, STS-135, will catch up with the International Space Station in two days.

"It will only take about 8.5 minutes to get into our initial orbit," says NASA Astronaut Sandra Magnus. "But it's an exciting 8.5 minutes!"

During their 12-day mission, Ferguson and his three crewmembers — Mangus and fellow veteran astronauts Doug Hurley and Rex Walheim — plan to wrap up construction of the space station.

They'll deliver a new room crammed with a year's worth of food, water and other supplies and perform suite of experiments in orbit, including the test of a bag able to recycle urine and a space-based iPhone application.

The mission is scheduled to last 12 days. They are expected to land July 20 at 7:06 a.m. EDT.

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At S&T, where she played soccer, Magnus earned a bachelor's degree in physics in 1986 and a master's degree in electrical engineering in 1990. She also holds a doctorate from Georgia Tech.

Magnus was selected as an astronaut candidate in 1996. She flew her first mission in 2002. A native of Belleville, Ill., she recently told her hometown Illinois newspaper: "Atlantis was the first one I ever flew on, and now it will be my last mission as well. So it holds a special place in my heart."

The other vehicles in NASA's shuttle program, which is being discontinued after 30 years, have already been retired. The crew of the last mission is being limited to four people, instead of the usual six astronauts, because if something goes wrong, Russian crews will eventually have to bring them back to Earth from the ISS.

In 2008-2009, Magnus spent more than four months at the space station, traveling 50,304,000 miles. While living on the ISS, she blogged for a site called spacebook.mst.edu, which was hosted by Missouri S&T. In addition to addressing various issues about life in orbit, she answered questions posed by grade school kids on the blog.

Magnus is somewhat famous for her hair, which, when unencumbered, floats impressively in zero-gravity. During a 2009 phone call to the ISS, President Obama asked her if she had ever thought of getting it cut. When Magnus said no, Obama replied that it was "quite a fashion statement."

Photos Above: The crew of the Atlantis Rex Walheim, Chris Ferguson, Sandy Magnus and Doug Hurley; the Space Shuttle Atlantis on the launch pad on Thursday.

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Craft Day A Hit At Story Hour

JULY 07TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Craft Day A Hit At Story Hour

*By Annabeth Müller,
ShowMe Times Editor*

They made giraffes and dragons, visors for their great adventure and had their faces decorated their journey.

A large crowd of youngsters and adults - 142 to be exact - participated in the fourth week of the Summer Reading Program at Keller Library. This week was Craft Week, with the youngsters visiting different craft tables and completing projects with the help of library volunteers.

With the help of Janet Coleman, the young “travelers” readied themselves for their journey with face painting; they crafted visors to shade their eyes from the sun; Marty Thompson helped kids make a puppet of one of the favorite animals on the African continents – the giraffe; they painted and they colored the Olympic emblem.

The highlight for many (if not most) was crafting a very special project – their own ice cream sundae. With the help of Keller Library Director Pam Trammell, the young (and young at heart) got to craft their own unique ice cream creation – complete with cherries, crushed cookies, whipped cream (two flavors!), mini marshmallows, and the all-important

sprinkles.

This Wednesday's program was the fourth in the six-week program. Trammell reported the annual summer reading experience has been averaging 152 each week. Next Wednesday, July 13, the youngsters will "travel" to Italy through stories and songs, and celebrate with a Pizza Party.

"We couldn't do these programs without the support of the Friends of the Library," Trammell said. The Pizza Party will be – like the entire reading program – free and open to all. The program on July 13 will begin at 11 a.m.

The final week, July 20, will feature Zoofari and will begin at 10 a.m.

"Zoofari will feature animals from six continents. There will be mammals, birds and reptiles and other creatures from around the world," Trammell said. The staff from Animal Tales of Mayfield, Kent, will be on hand to share and experience the youngsters are sure to enjoy.

The theme for the 2011 summer reading program is "One World – Many Stories."

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Kids Show Spirit of '76 At Parade

JULY 04TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Kids Show Spirit of '76 At Parade

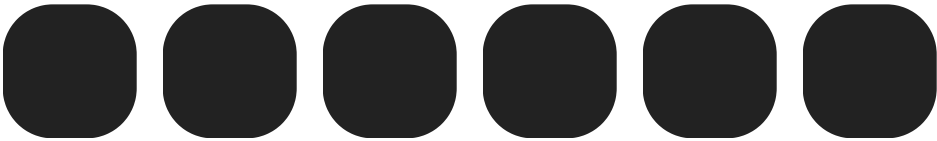
A little rain didn't dampen the enthusiasm and fun of the youngsters at the 19th annual 4th of July Parade for kids in Dexter. With determination and plenty of caps and umbrellas, the parade launched from the corner of Vine and Elm streets at 10 a.m. Monday. The kids wrote bicycles, trikes, in wagons, walked, skipped and made their way with parents and friends to the Post Office on Stoddard Street. The crew sang some patriotic songs, said the Pledge of Allegiance, posed for photos, and then headed rather swiftly back to the home of Jason and Kristi Banken for some refreshments and more fun. The crew posed for a photo with Uncle Sam (aka Jason Banken). The youngest in the parade was Gray LeBeau, infant son of Clint and Hannah LeBeau. (SMT Photos by Annabeth Miller)

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