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Flags Flown At Half-Mast To Honor Burnett

NOVEMBER 25TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Flags Flown At Half-Mast To Honor Burnett

American and Missouri state flags will fly at half-staff across the ShowMe State tomorrow (Saturday) to honor an area soldier who died in Afghanistan.

Gov. Jay Nixon ordered that flags at government buildings in all 114 counties and the city of St. Louis be flown at half-staff on Saturday to honor 21-year-old Spc. James Roland Burnett Jr. He died Nov. 16 when his unit was attacked with an improvised explosive device in Kandahar province, Afghanistan.

The governor also ordered the flags at all state buildings in Wayne County be flown at half-staff from Nov. 27 to Dec. 2.

Burnett will be buried Saturday in Lowndes in Wayne County.

Specialist Burnett's father and stepmother live in Brownwood.

U.S. Rep. Jo Ann Emerson recently expressed her sympathies to Specialist Burnett family and friends.

"I received this sad news with a heavy heart, and my deepest sympathies are with his family," Emerson said. "Specialist Burnett's deep roots in Brownwood and Stoddard County make this a devastating loss for many, many people in our community. Clearly, this young man understood the importance of his service to our nation, and the prayers of all grateful Americans should be him and his family now."

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Black Friday Begins For Avid Shoppers

NOVEMBER 24TH 2011 BY STAFF WRITER

Black Friday Begins For Avid Shoppers

As Thanksgiving Day winds down, plans are cast by many to rush out to area retailers to capture the deals available to shoppers on the traditional "Black Friday". But Black Friday has been ramped to begin much earlier this year at many locations and shoppers have hit the stores early.

Some feel that the early start time is cutting into the otherwise very special day of thankfulness. But the small degree of backlash felt will only bring big smiles to the faces of many retailers as groups of shoppers are rolling out in record numbers.

Estimates indicate that Black Friday shopping will be up by 10% of last years numbers, with over 150 million people expected to shop. These estimates are expected to be conservative as 2010 estimates were undershot by 74 million.

The photo to the left shows Jodi Williams of Dexter joining the already long line at Toys R Us in Cape. With an opening time of 9:00 pm, the line wound in front of Toys R Us, past Big Lots, past Hancock Fabrics, and down the street toward Cape First. But the lines would not stop Jodi and her shopping buddy, Leigh Ann Kincy. They were set for an all-night marathon searching for great deals.

Among the major big box stores, Toys R Us will kick off its Black Friday sales at 9 p.m. Thursday night, followed by Wal-Mart at 10 p.m. Then, at the stroke of midnight, Target,

Best Buy, Macy's and Kohl's all plan to open their doors.

If you haven't made the trip tonight, there is still time throughout the weekend. Please remember our local retailers here in Dexter. Your dollars spent locally stay in our community and make us stronger.

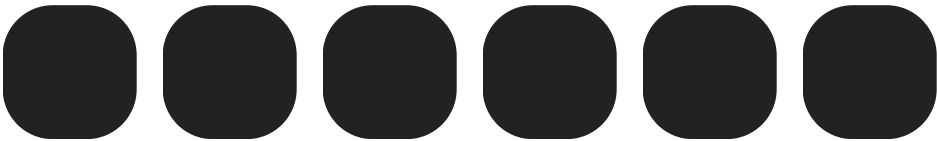
In fact, the Corner Cottage in Dexter held a special "Mingle Jingle" on Thursday from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM Thursday night, hosting shoppers to hot cider and beautiful selection of Christmas decoration.

Happy Shoppings.

LAST UPDATED ON NOVEMBER 24TH 2011 BY STAFF WRITER

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Missouri Marks 'Thank A Farmer' Day

NOVEMBER 23RD 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Missouri Marks 'Thank A Farmer' Day

JEFFERSON CITY - Gov. Jay Nixon and Department of Agriculture Director Dr. Jon Hagler today went to the southern Callaway County farm of Jay and Kim Fischer to celebrate Thank a Farmer Day. They were joined by representatives of farm commodity groups and other agricultural organizations to mark the occasion, which celebrates the contributions Missouri farmers make to feed, fuel and clothe America and the world.

"Millions of Missourians will sit down with family and friends at the dinner table on Thursday as part of our national day of thanksgiving," Nixon said. "We certainly are a blessed state, and a blessed nation, with much to be thankful for. There is no lack of delicious, healthy food on our tables or in our restaurants and grocery stores. For that, we can thank the farmers of Missouri."

The average Missouri farm is about 269 acres, and with 108,000 farms, Missouri has more than 29 million acres of agricultural land.

"Our farmers provide the safest, most affordable, reliable food supply in the world," Hagler said. "The efforts of our Missouri farmers and farm families make so many of our holiday traditions and celebrations possible, and coming together today to thank them for their efforts is one small way we can recognize their outstanding work."

Nixon also recognized the owners of Fischer Farms Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze, Jay and Kim Fischer, with the Governor's Award for Agricultural Achievement, which honors outstanding farmers, growers and processors in a variety of agriculture commodities. The Fischers have a diversified farm operation in south Callaway County, just across the Missouri River from the State Capitol, where they raise corn and soybeans.

In addition to those crops, Fischer Farms also is involved in agri-tourism, offering visitors in the fall an opportunity to explore a 10-acre corn maze, go on hayrides, get pumpkins from a pumpkin patch, and engage in other family-friendly activities. The Governor noted that the pumpkins, gourds and other fall decorations used at the Governor's Mansion for this year's Harvest Fest were purchased from Fischer Farms.

"The Fischers truly represent today's Missouri farmers - diversified, smart in business, and ready to meet the needs and demands of a changing world," Nixon said. "I am pleased to present them with award in recognition of their accomplishments on behalf of Missouri's multi-faceted agriculture industry."

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City Trash Schedule Announced; Board To Meet

NOVEMBER 21ST 2011 BY UNKNOWN

City Trash Schedule Announced; Board To Meet

The Thanksgiving holiday this week has slightly altered trash pickup in Dexter.

Dexter City Administrator Mark Stidham reports that trash pick-up proceed as usual on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week. Thursday's trash pick-up will be completed on Wednesday so city employees can enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday with families.

In addition, Stidham reported that city offices would be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24 and 25.

The Dexter Board of Aldermen is scheduled to meet tonight, Nov. 21 for a regular meeting. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the Dexter Municipal Building on Vine Street.

Link Of Interest

[City of Dexter](#)

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Teachers Announce Retirement Plans

NOVEMBER 19TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Teachers Announce Retirement Plans

By Annabeth Miller, SMT Editor

Four local educators with more than 70 years of classroom experience have announced their intention to retire from Dexter Schools at the end of the 2011-2012 academic year.

The Dexter Board of Education unanimously accepted the retirement notices from Vicky Jarrell, Maria Chamberlain, Carolyn Carroll and Betty Huffman at its meeting recently.

The four educators have a combined total of 93 years of teaching experience - more than 70 of which were spent in the Dexter system.

- Jarrell is the elementary physical education teacher at Southwest Elementary. She has taught in Dexter school for 20 years and a total of 25 years in Missouri schools.
- Chamberlain is the elementary music teacher at Southwest Elementary. She has taught elementary music in Dexter for six years and 11 years in Missouri.
- Carroll teacher computer science at T.S. Hill Middle School in Dexter has taught her entire career – 26 years – in the local school district.
- Huffman language arts at T.S. Hill Middle School and has taught for 22 years in Dexter schools and has a total of 31 years in the teacher profession in Missouri.

In other business, the board approved a recommendation to move January’s professional development activities to Jan. 3. The original date was Jan. 26.

The recommendation to move the date was from the district’s Professional Development Committee and the district’s administration.

In other business, the board:

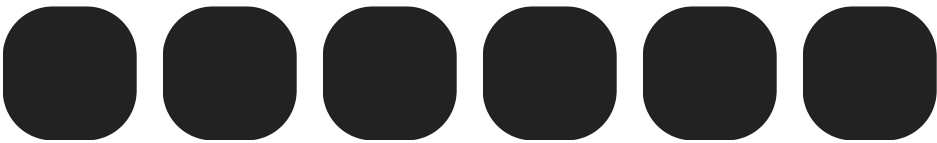
- Gave conditional approve to four DHS seniors requesting early graduation;
- Approved the employment of Steve Sparlin to fill a district-wide technology position;
- Announced refinishing the Bearcat Event Center is scheduled for March 12, 2012;
- Approved a lending agreement for Bernie Schools to provide the Bernie district with a table saw that is currently not being used.

The next regularly scheduled meeting on the Dexter Board of Education is at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 20.

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