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Wreaths Program Honors American Veterans

DECEMBER 13TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Wreaths Program Honors American Veterans

By Annabeth Miller, SMT Editor

BLOOMFIELD - It was a beautiful day – with the sun shining down on the hillside south of town as volunteers of all ages converged on the Missouri Veterans Cemetery.

The brisk temperature and breeze didn't deter those who came to place evergreen wreaths on the headstones at the cemetery. From young people in red stocking caps and members of the Children of the American Revolution, to members of the Civil Air Patrol to the Patriot Riders – they all gathered for a very special holiday moment.

It's a simple image, but one of honor: A green and red wreath laid across the tombstone of a veteran. It's a powerful image: a veteran's headstone and a evergreen wreath with a red ribbon. It's an image of honor, or remembrance, of gratitude.

Along with scores of other communities around the country, including Arlington National Cemetery, the area gathered at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Stoddard County.

Founded in 1992 by wreath-maker Morrill Worcester, the event helps communities recognize and remember the sacrifices of those who've served in America's armed forces.

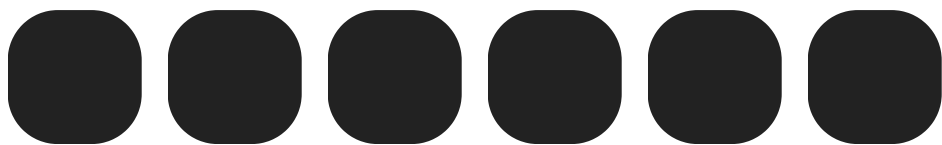
Following a brief yet poignant ceremony, volunteers scattered throughout the hillsides at the cemetery to place a wreath at each headstone in the cemetery. This is third year for the Wreaths Across America at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield.

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Candidates File On Opening Day

DECEMBER 13TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Candidates File On Opening Day

By Annabeth Miller, SMT editor

Candidates for Dexter city positions were on hand first thing Tuesday morning when city offices were open and filing for the April 2012 election could begin.

Five candidates had signed “on the dotted line” and were officially running for reelection by late Tuesday morning. Those who have filed for office include:

- Joe Weber, for reelection to a four-year term as mayor; Weber was first elected as mayor in 2002
- Crystal Allstun, for reelection to a four-year term as city collector. Allstun first became city collector in 2002; she is seeking her second four-year term
- Jerry D. Corder, reelection to a two-year term as alderman from Ward One
- Ray Pixley, reelection to a two-year term as alderman from Ward Three

In addition, Tim Aslin filled for election to a one-year term to fill an unexpired term on the board. Aslin was appointed to the Board of Aldermen earlier this year from Ward Two to fill an opening left by the resignation of Rick Hux.

Also this morning, one person filed to seek one of two positions open on the Dexter R-XI Board of Education. Allen L. Massey of Dexter filed the first morning for one of two positions on the board.

Two positions on the Dexter R-XI Board of Education will be on the April ballot. School board members serve a 3-year term. Positions on the ballot will be those currently held by Rick Williams and Kenny Pope.

Interested persons have until Jan. 17, 2012 to file for office for the April 3, 2012 election. Filing for city positions may be completed at the Dexter City Administration Building on Stoddard Street during regular business hours, except those days the city offices are closed for holidays.

Persons interested in filing for positions on school board may do so at the Dexter Schools Administrative Offices on Brown Pilot Lane during business hours except on those days the offices are closed for the holidays.

The last day to register or change an address for voter registration for the April 3, 2012 election is March 7, 2012.

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Filing Opens For City, School Elections

DECEMBER 12TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Filing Opens For City, School Elections

By Annabeth Miller, SMT Editor

Candidate filing will open tomorrow (Tuesday) for city and school board elections in Missouri.

Filing will open for the April 3 local elections on Tuesday, Dec. 13 for city candidates running for office in the city. In Dexter, four aldermanic as well as the mayoral and city collector positions will be on the ballot.

Three positions on the Board of Aldermen for two-year terms will be on the ballot. Positions on the ballot include those currently held by Ward I Alderman Jerry Corder, Ward II Alderman Kent Essner, and Ward II Alderman Ray Pixley.

In addition, Ward II Alderman Tim Aslin's position will be on the ballot. Aslin was appointed earlier this year to the board following the resignation of Rick Hux until the next election. This a one-year position to fill the unexpired term.

Two city positions will also be on April's ballot – mayor and city collector. Joe Weber has led the city as mayor since 2002. The mayor serves a two-year term. Crystal Allstun is the city collector; the collector serves a four-year term.

Candidates for city positions may file beginning at 8 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the Dexter City Administration Building on Stoddard Street in Downtown Dexter. Individuals may file on business days, Monday-Friday except on days when city offices are closed for holidays.

Two positions on the Dexter R-XI Board of Education will be on the April ballot. School board embers serve a 3-year term. Positions on the ballot will be those currently held by Rick Williams and Kenny Pope.

Candidates for school board positions may file beginning at 8 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 13 at the Dexter R-XI Administrative Offices on Brown Pilot Lane in Dexter. Individuals may file on business days, Monday-Friday except on days when school offices are closed for holidays.

The last day for interested persons to file for either city or school board positions is Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2012.

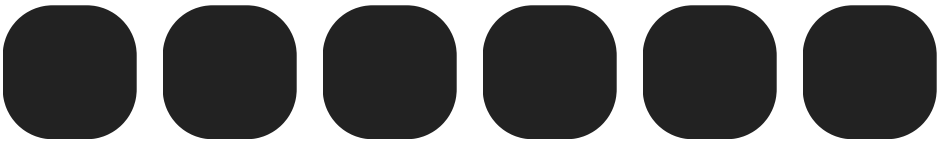
Each candidate filing for an elected position shall receive and sign for a “Candidate Acknowledgment,” a summary of Conflict of Interest and Campaign Finance Laws over which the Missouri Ethics Commission has enforcement powers pursuant to Chapter 105 RSMo and Chapter 130 RSMo.

The last day to register to vote or to change voter registration for this election is March 7, 2012.

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BREAKING NEWS: City Street Closed Monday Morning

DECEMBER 12TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

BREAKING NEWS: City Street Closed Monday Morning

The city of Dexter has announced a road closure in the city on Monday morning.

City Administrator Mark Stidham announced that North Locust Street near the Dexter Housing Authority would be closed from West Rainey to West Taylor for leak repair on Monday morning.

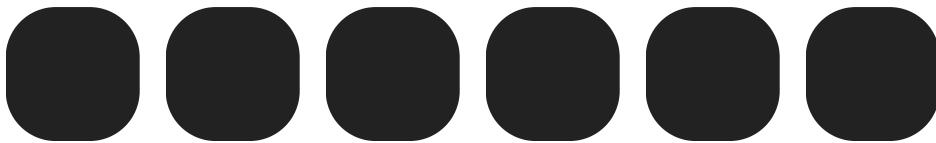
Stidham says the city apologizes for an inconvenience the closure may create, and assures drivers the work will be done as swiftly as possible.

Persons with any questions may contact city officials at the City Administration Building at 573.624.5959.

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Down On Farm: Blunt Critical Of Proposed Rules

DECEMBER 09TH 2011 BY UNKNOWN

Down On Farm: Blunt Critical Of Proposed Rules

WASHINGTON D.C. – U.S. Senator Roy Blunt strongly condemned the U.S. Department of Labor’s proposed rule today, which would restrict youth from performing some duties on farms.

The Obama Administration is considering revisions to federal agricultural work rules that effectively would bar teens younger than 16 from engaging in a number of traditional chores for pay — including detasseling.

Opponents of the rules across the Farm Belt argue that they are in part an attack on a way of life, one foreign to Beltway bureaucrats and one that should be encouraged in an era of rising childhood obesity rates and increasingly sedentary lifestyles.

“Having grown up working on my family’s dairy farm, I am outraged by the Department of Labor’s ridiculous attempts to restrict other young Americans from doing the same,” said Blunt.

According to the [Wall Street Journal](#), “Some farmers are opposing new rules proposed by the federal government that would restrict the chores children can be hired to perform in the nation’s fields, including driving tractors and rounding up cattle in corrals on horseback.”

“Farmers and ranchers care deeply about the safety of those working on their farms,” Blunt continued. “But this rule is absurd, and it would hurt these job creators who rely on young people to assist with the day-to-day operations of American farms.”

“The next generation of farmers and ranchers need hands-on experience and skills to meet the challenge of feeding a rapidly growing world. Not only would this rule prevent young people from learning how to safely work in this industry, but it would harm programs like 4-H and FFA that help foster and develop critical skills for future leaders in agriculture.”

The [American Farm Bureau](#) is heading a coalition of more than 70 ag groups that have petitioned the [Labor Department](#) to reconsider what would be the first major rewrite of farm labor standards since the 1970s.

“We have no desire at all to have young teenagers working in jobs that are inappropriate or entail too much risk,” said [Bob Stallman](#), president of the [farm bureau](#). “Farmers and ranchers are more interested than anyone else in assuring the safety of farming operations, and their right to operate their farms with family members is specifically permitted by [Congress](#). We don’t want to see those rights infringed.”

The [department](#) is reviewing those laws, which also would cover work with bulls, cows and other farm animals and farm machinery, at the urging of groups such as the [Child Labor Coalition](#) and the [National Safety Council](#).

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