

Features



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'Cats Honored For Leadership, Contributions

FEBRUARY 20TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

'Cats Honored For Leadership, Contributions

*By Annabeth Miller,
ShowMe Times Editor*

Friday evening was a big night for Bearcats, their families and friends as senior basketball players, cheerleaders and dance team members were recognized.

Seniors and their parents were escorted to center court of the Bootheel Event Center and introduced to fans before the tip-off of the Dexter-Cape Central varsity boys basketball game. The seniors were presented flowers, which they in turn presented to parents.

"These young men and women have provided us with many nights of exciting basketball action and entertainment in this gym and at our out-of-town games," said game announced Lloyd Hyten. "They have devoted countless hours of practice and preparation to do their individual best for the team or squad. Their team members, classmates, and teachers will miss the leadership and commitments they have made to our extracurricular programs and our school community."

Seniors recognized were:

Jennifer Aslin: Jennifer is the daughter of Tim and Lesa Aslin. She ran cross-country her freshman year, played tennis her sophomore and junior years, and has been on the Dance Team for two years. Jennifer is a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), Future Teachers of America (FTA), Student Council, and Dexter Honor Society. She plans to attend Southeast Missouri State University and major in nursing.

Amanda Cooper: Amanda is the daughter of Greg and Laurie Cooper. She was a basketball cheerleader her freshman year, a football cheerleader for three years, and a three-year member of the Dance Team. Amanda is a member of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), FTA, and Dexter Honor Society. She plans to pursue a Master's degree in nursing and become a nurse practitioner.

Jordan Fitts: Jordan is the son of Allen and Kim Fitts. He played baseball his freshman and sophomore years and has played basketball all four years. Jordan is a member of FCA and FTA. He plans to attend Southeast Missouri State University in Malden after graduation.

Rilee Jones: Rilee is the daughter of Danny and Kathy Jones. She was a football cheerleader for three years and a basketball cheerleader for four years. Riley is a member of FCA, Dexter Honor Society, FCCLA, DECA, FTA, and Rowdy Gals. She plans to attend college and major in education or graphic design.

Jake Lee: Jake is the son of Elaina Lindsey. He has played football and basketball all four years. Jake is a member of DECA and FCA. He is unsure of his plans after graduation.

Taylor Martin: Taylor is the daughter of Mike and Amber Martin. Taylor played volleyball her freshman year, was a football cheerleader her sophomore and junior years, a basketball cheerleader all four years, and will run track all four years. She is a member of FCA, FTA, FCCLA, DECA, Dexter Honor Society, and Rowdy Gals. Taylor plans to attend Mississippi State University and major in radiology.

Tyler Miller: Tyler is the son of Travis and Tracy Miller. He has played football, basketball and tennis all four years Tyler is a member of FCA and Dexter Honor Society. He plans to attend a four-year university and major in Mathematics.

McKenzie Mitchell: McKenzie is the daughter of Dr. Kevin and Ann-Marie Mitchell. She has been a cheerleader and played volleyball all four years. McKenzie is a member of Student Council, DECA, FCA, FTA, FCCLA, Dexter Honor Society and Rowdy Gals. She plans to attend Ole Miss and pursue a career in the medical field.

Sydney Rinehart: Sydney is the daughter of Mark and Vicki Rinehart. She was a football cheerleader her freshman, sophomore and junior years, and a basketball cheerleader her sophomore, junior and senior years. Sydney is a member of FCA, Art Club and Dexter Honor Society. She plans to attend Southeast Missouri State University.

Tori Seabaugh: Tori is the daughter of Heather and Steve Foster and Jeff Thomas. She was a football cheerleader three years, a basketball cheerleader her freshman and sophomore years, and has been a member of the Dance Team for two years. Tori is the treasurer for DECA, and a member of FTA and FCA. She plans to attend Southeast Missouri State University.

Jessica Snider: Jessica is the daughter of Jeff and Debbie Snider. She played tennis her freshman, sophomore and senior years and has been a three-year member of the Dance Team. Jessica is a member of Student Council, Future Farmers of America (FFA), FTA, FCA, Dexter Honor Society, and is the Senior Class president. She plans to attend Southeast Missouri State University and major in elementary education.

Megan Trewatha: Megan is the daughter of Steve and Deana Trewatha. She was a basketball cheerleader her freshman year, a football cheerleader her freshman, sophomore and junior years, and a three-year member of the dance team. Megan is a member of FCCLA, FTA, and Student Council. She plans to attend Southeast Missouri State University and major in elementary education.

Miranda Warner: Miranda is the daughter of Jenni Zimmerman. She was a football cheerleader her freshman and sophomore years and has been a basketball cheerleader all four years. Miranda is a member of FCA, FTA, and Dexter Honor Society. She plans to attend Missouri State University but is undecided on a major.

The seniors and their parents received a rousing ovation from the Bearcat fans at conclusion of the ceremony.

Photo Above: Senior Jordan Fitts and his parents, Kim and Allen, are introduced to the crowd at the Bearcat Event Center during Friday's Senior Recognition. (SMT Photo by Annabeth Miller)

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'Strolling' To Support Kids, PAT

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'Strolling' To Support Kids, PAT

*By Annabeth Miller,
ShowMe Times Editor*

Spring is on its way, and along with it a new opportunity to run – or stroll – to raise funds for kids and a local program.

The local Parents As Teachers program in the Dexter Public Schools is hosting a 5K run and Strollerthon to raise needed funds for the program. Planners are busy preparing for the event to be held Saturday, March 31 in Dexter' West City Park.

A group of volunteers met Thursday with PAT coordinator Melanie Stoelting to continue planning and preparing for the first-ever set of events.

The first event of the day will be a 5K run beginning at 8:30 a.m., and beginning in West Park.

“This is for everyone. This is not a race, but it is a chance to be active for kids and with kids,” said Willa Fees, who is chairing the event committee. Fees added that 5K runners would not be running with strollers.

The entry fee for the 5K is \$20 per person, and they will receive a t-shirt and swag bags fill with goodies donated by local businesses and organizations, water and refreshments.

“Not up for 3.1 miles, but have a cute kid and a stroller? Then the Strollerthon is for you,” Fee said.

“Strollerthoners” can check in with registration anytime between 8 -10 a.m. with their decorated stroller. This second part of the day will have a 10 a.m. start time.

Fees explained that participants will push their decorated stroller for two laps, which is 1 mile. During these laps, others can “vote” for their favorites by putting donations in that stroller’s jar. There will be prizes awarded for the best-decorated strollers at the event.

Proceeds from the day’s dup of events will go to support the local Parents As Teachers program. The PAT program, which originated in Missouri, is a national program that provides information, support and encouragement to parents who need to help their children develop optimally during the early years of life. Programs help to increase parents’ confidence and improve parenting skills.

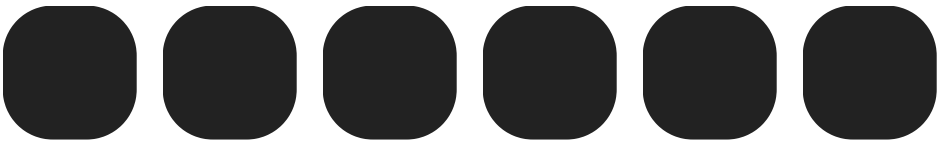
Persons wishing information on the 5K run and/or the Strollerthon may contact Fees at dexterPATstrollerthon@gmail.com or PAT program coordinator Melanie Stoelton at 573.614-1004 or melanies@dexter.k12.mo.us.

Photo Above: Planners got together Thursday morning to work on the upcoming Strollerthon and 5K for PAT in Dexter. On hand for the meeting were (from left) PAT Coordinator Melanie Stoelting, Marsha Lovelady, Amy Ellinghouse, Willa Fees, and "committee consultant" Stella Fees. (SMT Photo by Annabeth Miller)

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Valentines: Good Times With Friends

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Valentines: Good Times With Friends

*By Annabeth Miller,
ShowMe Times Editor*

What does Valentine's Day mean to kids these days? Well, for the second grade students in Tracy Elfrink's class, it mean giggles, good times, and games ... and something that just might be a thing of the past for kids in 2012.

Remember Sweathart Conversation Hearts? Those sugary sweet, heart-shaped candies with short (and usually sweet) messages, It just wouldn't be Valentine's Day without these candy hearts bearing cute messages, would it?

But what about kids growing up today?

The candies were on hand Tuesday for the Valentine's party in Mrs. Elfrink's classroom. But they're important role in 2012 was more as a marker in Bingo than as a vehicle for sharing special messages with your Valentine.

"The messages just aren't as popular," Elfrink said. Blame modern technology. For kids growing up with computers, cell phones, texting and e-mail, the Conversation Hearts are just another great Valentines candy.

But that didn't dampen the fun times! Games, refreshments (including pink and white cupcakes), and good fun were the order of the afternoon.

Sweethearts Conversation Hearts are more than 100 years old. The NECCO company (NECCO stands for New England Confectionary Company) began printing sayings on candy in 1860, and the company reports that the present version of the candy dates back to 1902. In 1990 the company started updating its messages for the modern crowd – including sayings like "text me".

But for the kids in Mrs. Elfrink's class this week, they were just another generation of kids who enjoyed the fun of Conversation Hearts and sharing Valentines Day with friends and finding a stash of cards from classmates in you Valentines Card Box.

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Mother Goose Visits Keller Library

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Mother Goose Visits Keller Library

*By Annabeth Miller,
ShowMe Times Editor*

Once upon a time (Tuesday morning), the children gathered and listened to none other than Mother Goose herself, as she read wondrous rhymes and sang songs at Story Hour in Dexter.

Mother Goose read nursery rhymes to the young children who attended the weekly Story Hour. From rhymes familiar to singing rhymes together, the youngsters sat (or perhaps rolled around) the story time rug and listened intently.

*Jack be nimble,
And Jack be quick;
And Jack jump over
The candlestick.*

Dressed in her traditional tall hat, full apron and practical dress, Mother Goose was even accompanied on her visit to Dexter by the famous goose itself. And for once, the goose was quiet and let Mother Goose and the children do the talking.

*Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To fetch a pail of water;
Jack fell down and broke his crown,
And Jill came tumbling after.*

After listening quietly to Mother Goose and her famous rhymes, the youngsters had the opportunity to make some crafts to take home to remind them of their guest reader and her famous rhymes. There were even heart-shaped cookies to share!

*Mary had a little lamb,
little lamb, little lamb,
Mary had a little lamb,
whose fleece was white as snow.*

Mother Goose was portrayed by Melanie Stoelting, director of the Dexter Parents As Teacher program.

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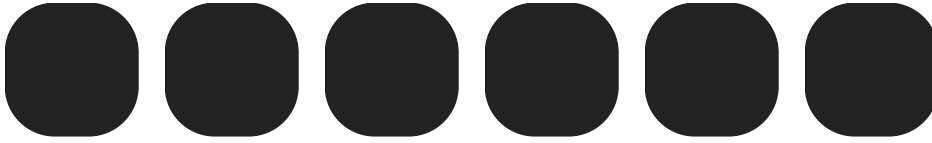
Story Hour at Keller Public Library

Photo by Annabeth Miller

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Catching Snowflakes On A Winter Day

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Catching Snowflakes On A Winter Day

Nature is full of genius, full of the divinity; so that not a snowflake escapes its fashioning hand."

- *Henry David Thoreau*

*By Annabeth Miller,
ShowMe Times Editor*

There is nothing that can replace the soft and graceful flutter of a snowflake. For a time Monday afternoon - with the snow just beginning to fall – the sight of those first snowflakes was There were no thoughts of slushy streets and cancelled meetings; of the cold and wet, traffic snarls or of freezing feet and fingers that needed to thaw by a warm fire.

No. There was just the joy of a long-awaited snowfall. There were thoughts of playing in the snow, of using that new snowboard that was under the Christmas tree. There were thoughts of crafting the perfect snowman, hoping for enough now for a snowball scrimmage, playing in the snow, catching snowflakes and making a wish in the winter fun.

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For young Kylee Carter it was an afternoon for giggles and new experiences; of enjoying the delights of the first flakes of snow to fall on a winter afternoon.

Kylee (also known as Peanut and a ferocious Cardinal baseball fan) was ready to catch snowflakes. Kylee liked playing in the snow, and yrying to catch snowflakes on her tongue - except her daddy thought she tried to do it with a very narrow tongue! Nevertheless, there were big smiles, giggles galore as she kept her tongue out, happily catching snowflakes.

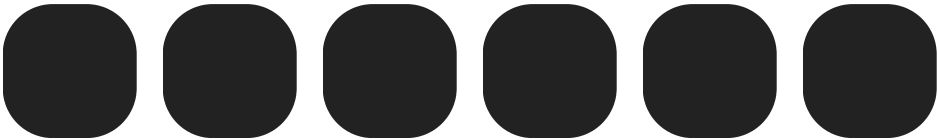
Kylee is daughter of Kim and Kyle Carter, former Dexter folks who now live in Sikeston. Kylee's dad snapped these keepsake photos.

It's good to know that kids still have fun being naturally fun kids – and giving the rest of us a chance to remember what it is like to still be a kid at heart.

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