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Lauren Powers for Heartland Idol

AUGUST 29TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Lauren Powers for Heartland Idol

*Article Written by SMT Writer
Jessica Snider*

This is an exciting time for local Lauren Powers, and she needs your help!

Lauren will be performing tomorrow night in downtown Cape at 6:00 P.M. She will be performing for the second round of Heartland Idol.

Earlier this year, Lauren auditioned in front of judges and made it through the first round. In this round there will be three judges and one winner will be selected to move on. The one who moves on will be in the finals of the SEMO District Fair.

Lauren hopes to see many of her family and friends there because the audience will also get to pick a second finalist to move on.

We wish Lauren the best of luck, and ask that everyone supports her!

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Johns Earns American FFA Degree

AUGUST 28TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Johns Earns American FFA Degree

Recently a member of the Dexter FFA chapter was notified that he earned the American FFA Degree.

Caleb Johns is a 2011 graduate of Dexter High School and a member of the Dexter FFA Chapter.

Johns has earned the highest FFA degree that can be presented.

Caleb is the son of Kevin and Janet Johns. Caleb attends College of the Ozarks where he is a sophomore. Johns is majoring in Agriculture Education.

He will be presented his degree during the American FFA Degree ceremony during the 85th National FFA convention held in Indianapolis, IN. on October 24th-27th, 2012.

A big congratulations to Caleb for receiving this well deserved honor!

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Two Year Old Faces a Tough Battle

AUGUST 27TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Two Year Old Faces a Tough Battle

On July 29th 2012, two-year old Drew Albritton was diagnosed with neuroblastoma. Neuroblastoma is a rare form of cancer found in 1 in every 100,000 children. Drew has a malignant tumor in his chest that is touching his spinal cord. Drew has already endured a lot, and his road to recovery is only just beginning. He will undergo five more rounds of chemotherapy along with blood work twice a week.

In the future Drew will face major surgery, bone marrow transplant, and radiation treatments. Also, there will be a four consecutive-week stay in the hospital.

Drew is the son of Mike and Elizabeth Carroll Albritton and the grandson of Dean and Carolyn Carroll. Grandparents still live in Dexter, and mother (Elizabeth Carroll) is a Dexter graduate.

With everything Drew is going through, the financial burden is the last thing on Mike and Elizabeth's mind. They are willing to do anything to make sure Drew is comfortable.

Mike and Elizabeth are both in education, and are uncertain about getting back to work. Most people cannot even begin to fathom the heartache this has caused, and the expenses

will be immense.

The main purpose for the donations will be medical expenses. Of course, not only donations, but prayers as well would mean a lot to the family.

Donations can be sent to:

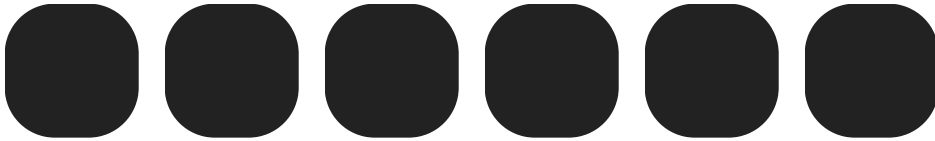
[/images/2012 Article Pics/New/SMT Donate Drew.png](#)

All of your donations and prayers will be greatly appreciated from Drew and his family.

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T.S. Hill Middle School Donates Canned Goods

AUGUST 27TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

[T.S. Hill Middle School Donates Canned Goods](#)

Our community is often known for its' kindness. We often see this proved throughout the Christmas time when everyone is in the giving mood throughout the jolly season.

T.S. Hill Middle School just recently proved you can be giving throughout the whole year. With students returning back to school, so returns the back to school dances. Every year there is a back to school dance that students wait for so patiently.

The back to school dance is a time to forget about your math assignment that's due, the English paper you've been procrastinating, or anything else that could be stressful with returning to school.

This year T.S. Hill Middle School decided that the back to school dance should also benefit someone else. They came up with the idea to donate cans to the local mission.

Along with dances, comes the sound system. Usually, there would be an admission price paid by the attending students. That admission price would then pay for the sound system when it was all said and done.

This year, thanks to the gracious PTO, there was not an admission price. However, students were asked to bring canned food to get into the dance. PTO graciously covered the cost of the sound system for this to be possible.

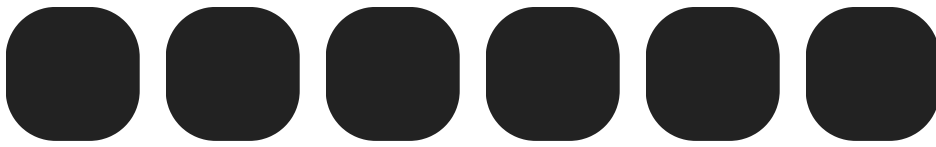
Thanks to the staff at T.S. Hill Middle School, PTO, and the students who brought in canned goods, local families in need have been helped.

Pictured above are students with the cans donated.

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Gov. Nixon Addresses Drought

AUGUST 21ST 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Gov. Nixon Addresses Drought

Greene County, Mo. – Gov. Jay Nixon today visited a family farm near Ash Grove in Greene County to survey a new well that has been installed as a result of the Governor’s emergency drought relief program. Gov. Nixon saw the well that is producing water for cattle being raised by livestock producer Kim Keith, and also provided an update on how the emergency program is helping Missouri farmers.

The Governor also announced that the State Technical Assistance Review Team, in conjunction with local soil and water district boards, is in the process of completing final review of pending applications. As of this afternoon, nearly 5,800 applications have been approved, and more than 3,500 of those projects have been completed, are underway or have been scheduled for construction. The review process is nearing completion on the final few pending applications.

“The number of applications we received shows the real and immediate needs that farmers have during this unprecedented period of drought,” **Gov. Nixon** said. “Now that the review process is wrapping up, we are turning our attention to approved projects so that we can ensure that they are completed as soon as possible.”

Gov. Nixon’s executive order authorized the State Soil & Water Districts Commission to establish the program to provide urgent relief for farmers and producers facing critical shortages of water. To be eligible for the program, projects had to provide immediate and

material relief for the farmer or producer. The same day, he signed a separate executive order declaring a State of Emergency in Missouri because of the drought.

Because of the emergency nature of the program, project applications were due by 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 6. Officials from the Missouri Department of Agriculture and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources are supporting local soil and water districts in reviewing the applications to determine eligibility for funding.

The nearly 5,800 applications approved for assistance have an average cost of approximately \$4,800 per livestock project. The program covers 90 percent of the cost of the emergency water project, such as digging or deepening a well or connecting a farm to rural water. The producer or farmer pays the remaining 10 percent. The maximum state match for any project is \$20,000.

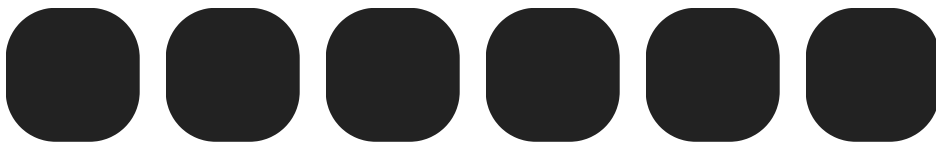
Funding for this emergency program comes from unallocated reserve funds provided by the State Soil & Water Districts Commission and state resources made available by Gov. Nixon through House Bill 8.

House Bill 8 provides the Governor the authority to direct funds for “responding during a declared emergency at the direction of the Governor, provided the services furnish immediate aid and relief.”

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