Local News

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Dexter Twin Cinema Finishes Renovations

MARCH 24TH 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

Dexter Twin Cinema Finishes Renovations

Written by

Beth Farrah, SMT Writer

Dexter, Missouri - Dexter's very own Twin Cinema has just finished their renovations. This weekend is the first time ever that the cinema is using their brand new 3D and 2D full HD digital projection and sound. The theater has vastly improved in more ways than one, but don't worry, it still has the same movie ticket prices and great hospitality that you find from the workers behind the counter.

After the \$150,000 screen and sound upgrade that was placed in the theater earlier last week, the Dexter Twin Cinema is open for business once again. It was most likely a busy weekend since the long awaited movie "*The Croods*" starring Ryan Reynolds, Nicholas Cage, and Emma Stone was put on the big screen. The movie is not only shown in the average 2D, but the new upgrade allows for amazing 3D viewing as well. Currently, the "*Oz The Great and Powerful*" movie starring Mila Kunis and James Franco is also available at the cinema all this week.

The cinema has launched a website at **www.dextertwincinema.com** that makes it easy for viewers to find show times, prices, and the upcoming movies that will be showing. On the website, you can sign up for weekly newsletters that explain the upcoming movies, events, and information about the theater. When you sign up for the newsletter, you will receive a free small popcorn at the next movie you see. The theater is also now open to hold events so birthday parties or other themed occasions can be planned and celebrated in front of the big screen.

The theater might have changed a lot, but they are keeping their customers' favorite traditions. If you bring your own bowl to the theater on Monday or Tuesday night, you can get it filled for free. Tuesday night is also Bargain Night, so you can get your tickets for the show at the price of child's admission.

To keep up to date with the newest movies, you can add the theater as a friend on Facebook or check their website. They will keep you updated on show times, Bring Your Own Bowl Night, and Bargain Night so you can grab the best deal and see a great movie with hot and buttery popcorn.

The new screen and sound upgrade is something that you won't want to miss, so don't forget to stop by to see one of the new movies for a breathtaking 3D experience.

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Upcoming Prom Corsage Bar

Upcoming Prom Corsage Bar

Written by Beth Farrah, SMT Writer

Dexter, Missouri - Prom is approaching quickly and while students rush to find the right shoes, dresses, and suits at the last minute, one thing they don't have to worry about is their corsages. Jackson Florist and Gifts in Dexter is holding a Prom Corsage Bar on April 4th and again on April 9th.

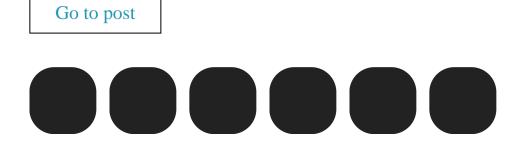
The Prom Corsage Bar is an excellent way for girls to pick out their very own corsage and design it the way they want it to look. The Corsage Bar will offer a number of things to place on the corsages, including ribbons, bows, feathers, bracelets, and glittery attachments. It is the perfect way to kick off the prom season and to have something one of a kind that goes perfectly with everyone's unique attire.

The newest prom idea is going to be a great hit. Jackson Florist and Gifts is also running an awesome special. Anyone who purchases or places an order at either party will receive an additional 10% discount.

Both parties will last two hours on April 4th and April 9th, beginning at 4:00pm and ending at 6:00pm. It will take place at Jackson Florist and Gifts on 205 North Walnut Street in Dexter. Everyone who is able to attend is invited to this special event!

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Aphis Mizzou Who?

MARCH 20TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Aphis Mizzou Who?

Submitted by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Writer

Columbia, **Missouri** - Today is the first day of Spring here in the Heartland of Missouri. Most of us are thinking about the upcoming Winter Storm Watch and perhaps not the beautiful springtime planting season soon approaching.

The last thing on anyone's mind is *Aphis Mizzou*. What is that? You can probably figure that with the word Mizzou in the title, it has something to do with the University of Missouri Tigers. Nope! How about aphids? What is that?

Well the University of Missouri has Jesse Hall, Faurot Field, Memorial Union, the Tigers and the Columns. Now, MU has its own bug, an aphid to be exact.

An MU researcher has discovered a new insect on campus and given it a Mizzou name. Ben Puttler, assistant professor emeritus of plant sciences at the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, first discovered *Aphis Mizzou* while conducting research on wasps on the MU campus.

The insect, *Aphis Mizzou*, is a member of the aphid family of bugs. Aphids are tiny insects that live by feeding on the sap of plants. Nearly all-annual and perennial plants, including shrubs and trees, are potential hosts for aphids. When feeding on these plants, aphids can crumple leaves, distort plant tissue and bend stems. There are 5,000 species of aphids known in the world, but only 150 live in North America.

"When I was researching how wasps feed on another type of aphid I noticed the differences between the *Aphis Mizzou* and other aphids I was observing," Puttler said. "Once I realized that this bug hadn't been identified, I decided to give the aphid a Mizzou name considering these bugs haven't been found anywhere besides the MU campus."

Puttler worked with Doris Lagos in the Department of Entomology at the University of Illinois to confirm that the insect had not been discovered previously. The bug's uniqueness was confirmed by molecular tests at the University of Illinois.

"What makes the *Aphis Mizzou* so unique is that the aphid has a five-segmented antenna, a black head, thorax and abdomen that seem to be dusted with a white wax," Puttler said. "The *Aphis Mizzou* is found by the student recreation complex due to the large amount of St. John's Wort plants, which is the plant on which the bug lives."

Puttler's current research is focusing on the biological control of pests and how naturally occurring beneficial insects and other biotic agents can fight crop pests and weeds. However, the *Aphis Mizzou* doesn't seem to be

/images/Aphis Mizzou 1.gif

harming anything. It just wants to feed on the young leaves of the St. John's Wort plant, Puttler said.

Puttler has discovered six bugs prior to the discovery of the *Aphis Mizzou*, including one in which he named after his wife.

Puttler said that most people wouldn't notice the *Aphis Mizzou*, as it is smaller than a grain of pepper. Let's hope Mizzou keeps their new aphid as we begin our spring planting.

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Winter Storm Watch

MARCH 19TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Winter Storm Watch

Submitted by

Stoddard County, Missouri – We only thought Spring started tomorrow! The National Weather Service in Paducah, KY has issued a Winter Storm Watch from Thursday afternoon through Friday morning.

It now appears that light snow will break out Thursday afternoon, especially in areas from Poplar Bluff westward into the Ozark Foothills. The Snow will likely become heavy at times as the precipitation shifts southeast into the Missouri boot hill region late Friday and Friday evening.

The main impact with this event will come with locally heavy snow amounts in the 3 to 6 inch range. Highest amounts will likely be confined to the Ozark Foothills west of Poplar Bluff.

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MoDot's Pothole Patrol

MoDot's Pothole Patrol

Missouri - Spring is here and as the warm weather passes us by and as we adapt to the new season with ease, the streets and roads of our state don't transition as easily as we do. The changes in the weather have created cracks and potholes that cover our roads and the Missouri Department of Transportation is focusing on filling those potholes and fixing our up streets for the next month.

MoDot has issued a statewide "Missouri Pothole Patrol", which is MoDot's way of keeping tabs on the roads we drive on every day to keep them smooth and safe.

"The goal of this effort is to patch potholes as quickly as possible and get us through the transition to warmer weather," stated Elizabeth Wright, a MoDot maintenance engineer. "MoDot has dedicated staff and resources to prepare minor road damage quickly, but we need the public's help to spot those potholes and let us know where they are."

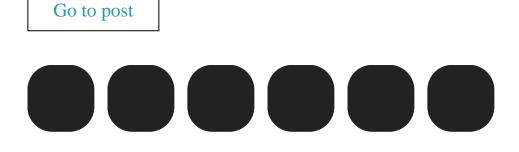
The Missouri Pothole Patrol starts on March 18th and goes all the way through April 14th. Here are some easy ways to report potholes you find when you are out and about:

- Call MoDot's Customer Service Center (open 24/7), at 1-888-ASK-MODOT (888-275-6636)
- 2. Report by Email: comments@modot.mo.gov
- 3. Report Online: modot.org "Report a Road Concern" (available by computer or smart phone)

These potholes that are reported within the next couple of weeks will be fixed by MoDot's Rapid Response Team, so the fixing will be temporary until later on into the warmer weather where they will be fixed permanently. MoDot is relying on drivers and motorists to report these potholes immediately.

With the cold weather at night, the water that is on the ground may fill the small cracks in the roads and freeze over. When the warmer weather hits during the day, the pressure expands and with multiple trucks, cars, and semis bumping over the bulge, pavement is slowly knocked away. Potholes could cause uneasy driving or even flat tires, which is why it is important to report them as soon as possible.

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