#### Community

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## 2nd Annual Stoddard County Coat Drive

DECEMBER 16TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

2nd Annual Stoddard County Coat Drive

Written by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor **Dexter, Missouri –** It's just been a year, but "Two People With One Goal" have created a beautiful collaboration between this community and those that need our help.

Dexter High School students, Jacob Robinson and Alexis Smith joined forces beginning with their first commitment to the community by hosting a coat drive. Now they have traveled full circle and are hosting the 2nd Annual Stoddard County Coat Drive for their organization, "End Poverty in Stoddard County".

Last year they collected 348 coats and distributed to children and adults throughout Stoddard County!

The Coat Drive began December 11<sup>th</sup> and goes through January 7<sup>th</sup>. This year's goal is 300 coats! Let's help these students achieve their goal and donate coats to those who have none!

Drop off locations are Dexter Medical Center located beside Sonic and if your child attends T.S. Hill Middle School you can send the coat with them. The students can give them to Mrs. Robinson, the Librarian.

Pick-up options are also available. Contact Jacob Robinson at 573-552-2108 or Alexis Smith at 573-820-5699.

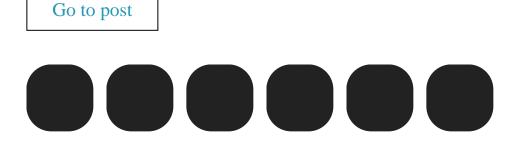
They will deliver the coats to the Stoddard County Gospel Mission in Dexter and Born Again in Bell City. Any children-sized coats will be distributed to the elementary schools throughout the county. Each school can then give the coats directly to the children in need.

If you have any questions, concerns, or even ideas, please email them to info@endpovertystodardcounty.com and they will contact you at their earliest convenience.

"If you could let your churches know about us and help spread the word, we would appreciate any involvement or help with collecting coats," stated Alexis Smith. Join the fight to end poverty in Stoddard County. Any donation is greatly appreciated!

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# Shop With a Hero!

DECEMBER 15TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Shop With a Hero!

Written by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

**Dexter, Missouri -** "Shop With a Hero" program helped more than 300 children with gifts this holiday season. The event took place in three different stages at the Wal-Mart store in Dexter. Children were divided into groups of 100 and each shopped with a HERO!

Firefighters, police officers, probation and parole officers, highway patrol, and EMT's dressed in their best uniforms drove to Wal-Mart and volunteered their time to help children shop for their favorite toys. Each child was given \$75 to shop with and Santa took time out of his busy schedule to greet them.

It was emotional for some of the emergency responders as each child was assigned a "HERO"! Some were grinning and laughing, others a little tear in the corner of their eye, but each HERO was happy to help a child who was less fortunate than others this holiday season.

Several emergency personnel from Stoddard County decided to make Christmas a little brighter for underprivileged children and now 13 years later they are still able to bring joy to children of Stoddard County.

Over \$22,000 was donated to Shop With A Hero from fundraisers, individual contributions and business donations. Debbie Juden, Wal-Mart Manager in Dexter is a huge supporter of this worthy organization.

The program is for youngsters 3 to 10 years of age and if you are interested in donating or volunteering please contact Carol Moreland at 573-624-9086. Shop With a Hero is a wonderful way to help the children of our community.

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# Snacks With Santa

DECEMBER 13TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Snacks With Santa

Written by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

**Bernie, Missouri -** It's that time of the year when Santa begins visiting good little boys and girls and have their picture made! The Bernie Senior Beta Club presents "Snacks with Santa" on Saturday, December 14th from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Santa will be available in the Bernie cafeteria.

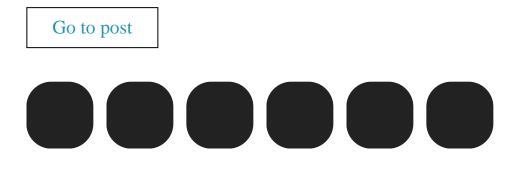
Admission is one can good! Pictures with Santa are just \$2.00. All children can talk with Santa, sit on his lap, and receive a candy cane. The \$2.00 is to cover the cost of pictures printed. There will also be cookies and punch, games and crafts for the children.

The Bernie Parents as Teachers will be available for questions, activities and resources. The public is encouraged to attend.

Have a safe weekend and a Merry Christmas to all.

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## Audition for Peter Pan

DECEMBER 11TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Audition for Peter Pan

Submitted by Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor

**Cape Girardeau, Missouri -** Is there a child in your family that looks the part of Peter Pan? Bring them to an audition at the River Campus Dance Studio on Saturday, December 14th at 1:00 p.m.

Children ages eight and up are invited to audition at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14 in the River Campus Dance Studio, for various roles in the upcoming Southeast Missouri State University Department of Theatre and Dance production of "Peter Pan."

Rehearsals will be held on nights and weekends starting Jan. 13. Those seeking a part do not need to prepare a song or materials, as a song will be taught to the children upon arrival.

With eight Tony Award nominations and three wins, this children's story is filled with spectacle, laughs and the fun-filled escapades of Peter, Wendy and Tinker Bell as they struggle with Captain Hook and his pirates in Neverland.

Children will act, sing and dance alongside the department's students in this family classic.

"Peter Pan" runs Feb. 26-March 2 in the Donald C. Bedell Performance Hall at Southeast's River Campus.



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Flags at Half-Staff on Dec. 7 for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

#### Flags at Half-Staff on Dec. 7 for Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Submitted by Jill Temples

SMT Writer

Jefferson City, Missouri– The U.S. and Missouri flags on all state and local government buildings in Missouri will be flown at half-staff on Saturday, Dec. 7 to commemorate those who died or were wounded during the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941. A 1996 state law designates the date as Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and directs that on that day, flags be flown at half-staff by all state agencies and political subdivisions of the state.

"Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day reminds us of the sacrifices that have been made by our men and women in uniform, and of their tremendous courage through the generations," Gov. Jay Nixon said. "When Missourians see the flags at half-staff on Saturday, I ask that they remember and honor those who have served or who are now serving our nation."

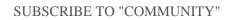
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