

## Community



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# Drake Zimmerman Named Bernie PAT March Student

MARCH 05TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Drake Zimmerman Named Bernie PAT March Student

**Bernie, Missouri** - Drake Zimmerman is also one of Bernie Parents as Teachers Students of the Month for March.

Drake is the 18-month-old son of Tony and Natalie Zimmerman and enjoys reading books, driving his cars, and playing ball with his family.

Drake's favorite part of PAT is reading the new book Mrs. Casey brings and doing the activity with his mom each month.

If you would like to know more about Parents as Teachers contact Courtney McGarity or Paige Williams at 573-293-5335, ext 293 or find them on Facebook by clicking [HERE](#).

The following information was taken directly from the Parent as Teachers Missouri website. For more information click [HERE](#).

### **Our Vision**

All children will learn, grow and develop to realize their full potential.

### **Our Mission**

To provide the information, support and encouragement parents need to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life.

## **Our Values**

The early years of a child's life are critical for optimal development and provide the foundation for success in school and in life.

Parents are their children's first and most influential teachers. Established and emerging research should be the foundation of parent education and family support curricula, training, materials and services.

All young children and their families deserve the same opportunities to succeed, regardless of any demographic, geographic or economic considerations. An understanding and appreciation of the history and traditions of diverse cultures is essential in serving families.

## **History**

In 1981, Missouri pioneered the concept of helping parents embrace their important role as their child's first and best teacher. Today, Parents as Teachers continues to equip early childhood organizations and professionals with information and tools that are relevant—and widely applicable—to today's parents, families and children.

The Parents as Teachers leadership team and Board of Directors is engaged in a three-year [strategic plan](#), which positions the organization as a valued partner to support the organizations and professionals who serve families and children, especially those most vulnerable.

The concept for Parents as Teachers was developed in the 1970s when Missouri educators noted that children were beginning kindergarten with varying levels of school readiness. Research showed that greater parent involvement is a critical link in the child's development of learning skills, including reading and writing.

Early childhood professionals suggested that a program to provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues, and parent education to help parents understand their role in encouraging their child's development from the beginning could help improve school readiness and parent involvement.

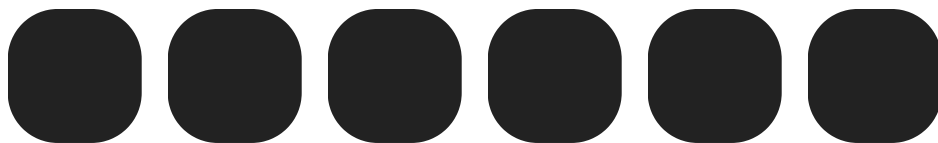
With funding from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and The Danforth Foundation, Parents as Teachers began in 1981 in

Missouri as a pilot project for first-time parents of newborns. Recognizing the program's benefits and cost effectiveness, the Missouri legislature provided state funding in 1985 to implement Parents as Teachers programs in all Missouri school districts. Since 1985, Parents as Teachers has expanded to all 50 states and six other countries.

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## Bernie PAT March Students of the Month

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[Bernie PAT March Students of the Month](#)

**Bernie, Missouri** - Kaleb Lacey and George Gilbert are two of Bernie Parents as Teachers March Students of the Month.

George is five months old and his older brother, Kaleb, is two years old. They are the sons of George and Maria Gilbert.

Kaleb's favorite food is macaroni and cheese and his favorite toy is his teddy bear.

George enjoys his bottle and his favorite toy is his fox blankie. He also likes to "talk" to the TV and the people around him.

Kaleb always enjoys helping out with his little brother, including bottles and baths. The Gilbert family says they enjoy the one-on-one time spent with each child during their Parents as Teachers visits.

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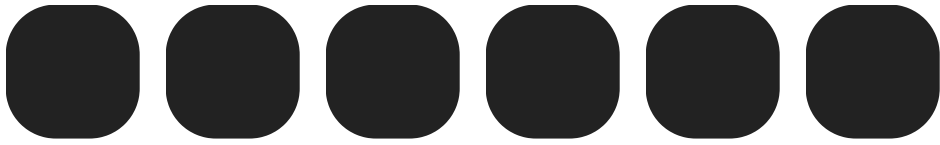
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## Larry B. Jones H.O.P.E. Campaign to Host Fish Fry

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Larry B. Jones H.O.P.E. Campaign to Host Fish Fry

**Bloomfield, Missouri** – The Larry B. Jones H.O.P.E. Campaign will host a Fish Fry at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Bloomfield on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

The event will take place from 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$15.00 for adults and \$10 for children ten and under.

Meal will include fish, sides, and homemade desserts along with a drink. There will also be music, a silent auction, and t-shirts available for purchase.

Tickets may be purchased at Allen Christian in Dexter or from the Jones family. All proceeds benefit 18ForeLife!

The Larry B. Jones H.O.P.E. Campaign is giving back to local families by raising money for the our local charitable organization, 18 Fore Life.

Larry Jones was from Bloomfield, Missouri and passed away on March 14, 2011. As a teenager, Larry was quite the athlete at Dexter Senior High School. He was an accomplished sportsman, competing in football, wrestling, track and boxing and earned

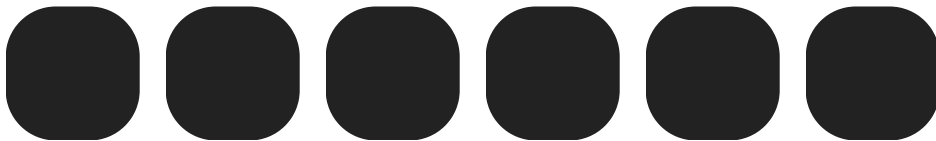
his nickname of "Arkansas Flash".

In honor of his brave fight with cancer that took his life, the Larry B. Jones H.O.P..E. Campaign was established to celebrate Healing, Optimism, Prayer and Example. Those who wish to donate directly may send monies to 1428 W. Business Hwy 60, Dexter, Missouri 63841 or drop your donation off at the Bank of Advance in dexter, Advance or Bell City, Missouri.

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## Dexter Rotary Club Will Host Blood Drive - The Need is Great!

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FEBRUARY 26TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Dexter Rotary Club Will Host Blood Drive - The Need is Great!

**Dexter, Missouri** – The need is great this time of the year and especially now with many of the local blood drives being cancelled due to snow and ice.

The Dexter Rotary Club felt the impact as well having to cancel their blood drive last week, but have rescheduled it for Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Parish from NOON to 5:00 p.m.

According to Tara Lincoln at the American Red Cross they are down well over 200 units of blood because of all the recent bad weather. Blood drives are typically down in the wintertime, but with several being cancelled it has taken a toll on units available to save lives.

Please come out and donate!!! One pint can save as many as three lives!

No appointment is necessary, but you can pre-register at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) to save a little time waiting.

***For anyone who comes and registers to give blood they will receive a FREE Pizza Hut pizza coupon! The Rotary Club also provides sandwiches, cookies, juice and other goodies to those who participate.***

This will be a great opportunity to give to an organization that helps our community in many ways. The Red Cross not only handles 1/2 of the United States supply through these blood donations, but offers CPR classes, first aid classes and other health and safety programs, they provide food, shelter and emotional support to victims of disasters such as earthquakes, tornadoes and floods.

### **What do you need to donate blood? It's very simple!**

1. A blood donor card and driver's license or two forms of identification, especially if you are a first time donor are required to check-in.
2. Donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in reasonably good health.
3. Donating blood involves four basic steps: Registration, Medical history and mini-physical, Donation and at the end a nice Refreshment.

Any information given to the Red Cross during the donation process is confidential.



The need for blood is constant and every pint counts. Each day, patients in our county are helped by donors who have given blood.

Here is just one example of how a blood drive recently helped a person. Thirty units of red blood cells and five units of platelets were transfused to a car accident victim and saved their life. Had generous donations not been made his/her family would be attending a funeral instead spending time with their loved one. Thanks to the many dedicated Stoddard County residents who have given over the years, the blood products were available for these types of patients and other like them.

The Red Cross needs your help! Donate today! Visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-733-2767 for more information on how to volunteer or donate. We hope to see you at the Rotary Club Blood Drive Thursday.

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## McKenzie is February Bernie PAT Student of the Month

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## McKenzie is February Bernie PAT Student of the Month

**Bernie, Missouri** - McKenzie Beard is also a Bernie Parents as Teachers student of the month for February and is the five year old daughter of Justin and Emily Beard.

She loves to sing and dance and also enjoys playing baby dolls. One of her favorite things is to have her Mommy read books to her. McKenzie always looks forward to the PAT meetings.

She enjoys the games the family plays together during the visits, getting a new book for her Mommy to read to her, and practicing the new skills she learns with the family's Parent Educator, Mrs. McGarity.

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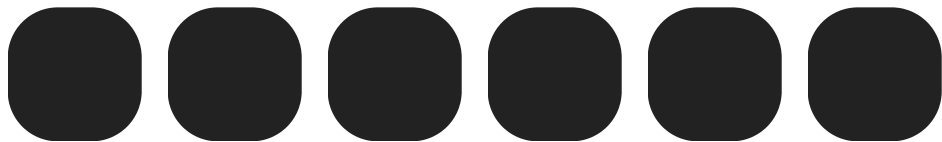
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