#### **Local News**

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# Ramp 25 South to US 60 Reduced for Pavement Repairs

DECEMBER 17TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Ramp 25 South to US 60 Reduced for Pavement Repairs

#### Ramp 25 South to US 60 West in Stoddard County Reduced for Pavement Repairs

Ramp 25 South to U.S. 60 Westbound in Stoddard County will be reduced to one lane as Missouri Department of Transportation crews perform pavement repairs.

This ramp is located from Route 25 South to U.S. 60 Westbound.

Weather permitting, work will take place Thursday, Dec. 17 and Friday, Dec. 18 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

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### First Midwest Bank Announces New Community President

DECEMBER 16TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

#### First Midwest Bank Announces New Community President

**Dexter, Missouri -** The Board of Directors of First Midwest Bank of Dexter recently announced that Jerry Dorton will assume the role as Community President/Executive Vice President.

A 44-year veteran of the financial services industry, Dorton joined First Midwest Bank of Dexter in 1980. He has served in various management roles in the First Midwest Bank affiliated banking group. He has worked the past 12 years as Senior Vice President of Midwest Bancorporation, Inc., an affiliate of First Midwest Bank of Dexter that provides bank consulting.

"We are pleased to have Jerry working with our Dexter staff to fulfill the banking needs of our customers in Dexter and the markets we serve," said Joseph T. McLane, President.

Jerry and his wife Sandy have lived in Dexter since 1980. They have both been active in various church, civic and community organizations including the First Baptist Church of Dexter, the Regional Healthcare Foundation, Southeast Missouri Hospital in Dexter, and Hidden Trails County Club. Sandy is a homemaker

and part-time real estate agent.

"I am excited and humbled to have the opportunity and privilege to work with our talented staff in serving our valued customers, friends, and neighbors in Dexter," Dorton said.

The First Midwest Bank of Dexter has more than \$300 million in assets and has locations in Dexter, Dudley, Sikeston, Jackson, and Cape Girardeau.

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# Huffman Transfers to Senior VP at Midwest Bancorporation

DECEMBER 16TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Huffman Transfers to Senior VP at Midwest Bancorporation

**Dexter, Missouri -** Jack Huffman, EVP and Community President of First Midwest Bank of Dexter, an independently owned and operated community bank established in 1964,

has announced that he will transfer from the bank to Senior Vice President of Midwest Bancorporation, Inc., an affiliate of the bank.

Midwest Bancorporation, Inc. provides bank consulting services to its affiliated banks throughout Southeast Missouri including First Midwest Bank of Dexter. Jack will be working with Joseph T. McLane, President of the holding company, in various capacities including special projects, asset liability management, and loan review.

"The bank has grown dramatically under Jack's leadership since February 2002, including the addition of new branches in Jackson and Cape Girardeau," said Joseph T. McLane. "Jack's invaluable banking experience will be an asset to the holding company," McLane continued.

Jack and his wife Betty will continue to live in Dexter. They have both been active in various church, civic and community organizations including the First Baptist Church of Dexter, and the Regional Healthcare Foundation. Betty is a retired school teacher with the Dexter School System.

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### MDC Sets Turkey and Deer Hunting Dates

DECEMBER 14TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

#### MDC Sets Turkey and Deer Hunting Dates

### MDC Sets Turkey and Deer Hunting Dates and Regulation Changes

**Jefferson City, Missouri -** At its meeting on Dec. 11, the Missouri Conservation Commission approved recommendations by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) for the 2016-2017 deer-hunting season and the 2016 turkey-hunting seasons. The recommendations include turkey-hunting and deer-hunting season dates, changes to turkey-hunting allowed methods, and changes to the deer-hunting season structure and allowed methods.

#### SPRING TURKEY HUNTING DATES

Spring Youth Portion: April 9 and 10, 2016

Spring Turkey Season: April 18 through May 8, 2016

#### FALL DEER AND TURKEY HUNTING DATES

Archery Deer and Turkey: Sept. 15 through Nov. 11, 2016, and Nov. 23, 2016, through

Jan. 15, 2017

Firearms Turkey: Oct. 1 through 31, 2016

Firearms Deer Early Youth Portion: Oct. 29 through 30, 2016 Firearms Deer November Portion: Nov. 12 through 22, 2016 Firearms Deer Antlerless Portion: Dec. 2 through 4, 2016

Firearms Deer Alternative Methods Portion: Dec. 24, 2016, through Jan. 3, 2017

Firearms Deer Late Youth Portion: Nov. 25 through 27, 2016

#### DEER AND TURKEY HUNTING REGULATION CHANGES

The Commission approved the following regulations regarding deer and turkey hunting:

Expand the deer-hunting late youth portion to three (3) days beginning the first Friday after Thanksgiving.

Reduce the length of the deer-hunting antlerless portion from 12 to three (3) days and begin it on the first Friday in December.

Eliminate the urban-zones portion of the firearms deer season.

Allow crossbows as a legal method during archery deer and turkey seasons.

Allow the use of crossbows during the fall firearms turkey season.

Remove the hunting method exemption requirement related to crossbows.

Reduce the limit of antlered deer from three (3) to two (2) during the combined archery and firearms deer hunting season, with no more than one (1) antlered deer taken during the firearms deer hunting season.

Set the 2016 spring turkey season from April 18 through May 8 with a limit of two (2) bearded turkeys during the season; provided only one (1) turkey may be taken during the first seven (7) days of the season.

Set the 2016 youth spring season April 9 and 10.

Set the 2016 fall turkey hunting season from Oct. 1 through 31 with a limit of two (2) turkeys of either sex during the season.

The regulation changes will become effective March 2016.

The Commission initially approved the deer-hunting recommendations at its August 2015 public meeting followed by a public-comment period.

Changes to the deer-hunting season structure and methods come after Department efforts over the past 18 months to gather public input. That public input included hunter and landowner surveys, numerous public open houses around the state, community presentations, media communications, information in various MDC publications, discussions with conservation partner organizations, and other efforts.

The Department will also continue to gather public input through surveys and the MDC website in early 2016 on a variety of deer-hunting-related topics, including nonresident permits and prices.

The approved recommendations were also based on the Department's use of deer population simulations, biological data, and harvest information.

"The goal of the Conservation Department's deer management program is to use research-based wildlife management combined with public input to maintain deer population levels throughout the state that provide quality recreational opportunities while minimizing human-deer conflicts," said MDC Deer Biologist Jason Sumners. "As deer populations in Missouri have changed over the last 75 years, so have our management strategies. In modifying the hunting-season structure, our aim is to achieve a deer population that is biologically and socially acceptable while also promoting hunter participation, recruitment, and retention."

#### **DEER HUNTING IN MISSOURI**

Missouri offers some of the best deer hunting in the country, and deer hunting is an important part of many Missourians' lives and family traditions. Deer hunting is also an important economic driver in Missouri and gives a \$1 billion annual boost to the state and local economies.

According to MDC, more than 90 percent of land in Missouri is PRIVATELY owned so landowners are essential to creating and maintaining wildlife habitat on private land. The Department works with more than 25,000 landowners in Missouri to help them manage their land for wildlife, such as deer and turkey.

For more information on deer and turkey hunting, visit mdc.mo.gov and click on Hunting/Trapping on the MDC homepage.

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MDC Provides Accessible Duck Blind at Duck Creek Bollinger County Placed on Rabies Alert - Notifies Local Vets

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## Route K in Stoddard County Reduced for Tree Trimming

DECEMBER 14TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Route K in Stoddard County Reduced for Tree Trimming

#### **Route K in Stoddard County Reduced for Tree Trimming**

Route K in Stoddard County will be reduced to one lane as Missouri Department of Transportation crews trim trees along the roadway.

This section of roadway is located from Route 25 to Route M.

Work will take place, weather permitting Tuesday, Dec. 15 through Friday, Dec. 18 from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.

The work zone will be marked with signs. Motorists are urged to use extreme caution while traveling near the area.

For additional information, contact MoDOT's Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK-MODOT (1-888-275-6636) or visit www.modot.org/southeast.

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