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Valentine Decorating Party With Monty

FEBRUARY 05TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Valentine Decorating Party with Monty

Dexter, Missouri - On Thursday, February 11, 2016, Montgomery Bank will feature a Valentine Decorating Party with Monty event from 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. at 140 S. Walnut Street in Dexter.

Bring a friend and make your own Valentines! Special treats and photos with Monty!

Please R.S.V.P. to Rachel Wade at (573) 614-3555 or send an email to rachelwade@montgomerybank.com

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Bloomfield Chamber Spotlight - Stars & Stripes Museum

FEBRUARY 01ST 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bloomfield Chamber Spotlight - Stars & Stripes Museum

Bloomfield, Missouri - The **Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce** is offering a new and exciting weekly feature to better acquaint our community with local businesses.

The Weekly Business Spotlight is a FREE Chamber Member benefit. Each week a business member will be highlighted on their social medial Facebook Page. If you are interested in becoming a Bloomfield Chamber member contact Brook Allen at Sweet Teas, 118 S. Prairie, (573) 568 - 9858 or Goldie DeGroot at Granny Pickers at (573) 568-9996.

This week's spotlight shines on the [Stars & Stripes Museum and Library](#) operated by Jim and Sue Mayo. Bloomfield is the true and actual birthplace of the original military newspaper, "The Stars and Stripes" first printed on November 9, 1861.

The museum features more than 7,500 square feet of exhibits including current and past copies of the Stars and Stripes for visitors to examine. There is a 12-minute video featuring former Stripes correspondents Andy Rooney and Steve Kroft.

There is a Civil Ward Exhibit, World War 1 Exhibit, World War II Exhibit, Korean War Exhibit, Vietnam War Exhibit, Cold War Exhibit, Gulf War Exhibit, Kosovo and Bosnia Exhibit, Operation Enduring Freedom Exhibit, Operation Iraqi Freedom Exhibit and a full library.

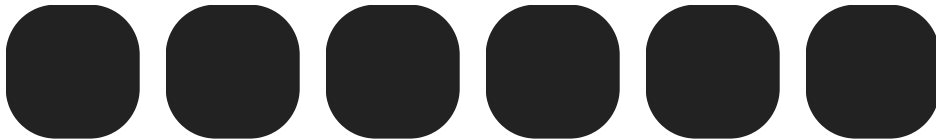
The museum is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

If you would like a group tour, please contact Jim or Sue Mayo (573)568-2055.

The Stoddard County Historical Society meets monthly at the Stars & Stripes. They typically have a very good speaker. The next meeting will be Monday, February 22nd at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Bill Shell will discuss the life of Moses Austin and Lead Mining in Missouri. The public is welcome. This is a free event.

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Dexter Chamber Citizen of the Year Award

JANUARY 31ST 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Dexter Chamber Citizen of the Year Award](#)

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter Chamber of Commerce held their annual awards dinner on Saturday evening.

Hillary Starnes, Chamber Director, presented the Citizen of the Year Award.

"The Citizen of the Year Award recognizes someone within the community who has gone above and beyond for the betterment of Dexter," stated Starnes. "It is an award that used to be annually presented, but went by the wayside years ago and is being revived with the 2015 year."

The recipient of the 2015 Citizen of the Year is a cornerstone of the Dexter community.

John William Ringer's passion for the city of Dexter is evident in more than half a century of service in a multitude of endeavors.

Tireless efforts in the early 1960s brought about the construction of the area's first hospital, now SoutheastHEALTH Center of Stoddard County. Ringer served on the hospital's initial board of directors and remained on the Board until 2008. Of his 44 years on that Board, 25 were in the role of Board President. he continues to serve today as attorney for the Regional Healthcare Foundation Board of Directors.

He served as Associate Circuit Judge in 1985-1986, appointed to fill the term of the late Jimmy Trammel. he had a successful run for the office when the next term came up, but later resigned to resume his practice full time in Dexter, where he remains today on Vine Street.

For the past 37 years, John William Ringer has served as legal representation for Dexter Public Schools. Additionally, he has spent a lifetime promoting literacy, primarily through his efforts on the Board of Directors of what is now Keller Public Library. Within that realm, he has served as a loyal "Friend of the Library" still taking time to volunteer at the library as a guest reader for their popular Story Hour series.

In his younger years, Ringer was active in the local Jaycee organization, serving as president for three terms. He has spearheaded countless fundraisers for worthy causes, including the hospital initiative, library additions and many others. He is also a veteran member of the Dexter Kiwanis Club and in that realm has served in every feasible capacity.

Ringer was recognized as the Chamber's "Man of the Year" in 1964. He was honored in 1995 in Who's Who in American Law and Excellence in Government and in 2013, received the "Friend of the Library's" annual award for his service to the local library.

Along with all of his civic contributions, John William Ringer has devoted a lifetime of service to his place of worship, Dexter's First Baptist Church. He has served as worship leader, Sunday School teacher, church deacon, as legal advisor for the church since the 1960s and in just about every other possible aspect of church service.

Health issues have recently forced this unsung hero to resort to the use of a wheelchair, but the wheels have not slowed his pace in the community. He continues in countless roles - serving quietly, with little fanfare and certainly with no self-gratification. He is a good steward, in the truest sens of the word - a giver and not a receiver - and a valued gift to the community of Dexter.

"We are pleased to present the 2015 Citizen of the Year to John Ringer," continued Starnes. "Congratulations!"

Photo credit to Dee Loflin, ShowMe Times Manager/Editor.

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Dexter Chamber 2015 Educator of the Year

JANUARY 31ST 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Dexter Chamber 2015 Educator of the Year](#)

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter Chamber of Commerce held their annual awards banquet on Saturday evening.

Kevin Bishop had the pleasure of introducing the 2015 Educator of the Year Award.

"This Educator has been involved with Dexter schools for many years even before teaching," commented Bishop. "Her family is active in the community. The students say this teacher is fantastic, makes learning fun, helpful, and stays up-to-date with the latest

teaching techniques. They also said this teacher has the patience of a saint and knows when a "creative" idea is not so creative."

"This Educator would be grading my paper right now on my grammar and English skills and probably giving me a somewhat decent grade I hope. This teacher oversees an extracurricular activity and makes sure it is ran smoothly, teaching the students a great deal of responsibility to make sure the project is complete each year. She wants them to make the big commitment to this activity and makes it fun while doing it. She makes sure every student meets their curriculum and goals for the year. This educator gets the "stamp of approval" from her students. She instills pride and motivation into her students. She reminds the students that they are responsible for the memories that people will have forever in a yearbook form. But when she is not teaching students, she is enjoying her time with her husband and two girls."

The 2015 Educator of the Year is Dexter High School teacher and yearbook sponsor Mrs. Laura Lee Stone.

Photo credit to Dee Loflin, ShowMe Times manager/editor.

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Dexter Chamber 2015 Industry of the Year

JANUARY 30TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter Chamber 2015 Industry of the Year

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter Chamber of Commerce held their annual awards banquet on Saturday evening.

Chamber Director Debbie Stidham presented the Industry of the Year Award. The two nominations were Faurecia and Tyson.

Faurecia has brought over 480 jobs to our community. The original Arvin was built in 1974. it merged with Arvin-Meritor in 2000, was redesigned as Emcon Technolgies in 2007 and then became Faurecia in 2010. They are a worldwide automotive supplier of seating, exhaust systems and interiors with 330 sites in 34 countries. In 2015, they wanted to create an initiative called "Being Faurecia". They created a culture on the concepts on entrepreneurship, energy, respect, autonomy, and accountability.

They wanted to be a good ambassador to our community. They created a team focused on raising money and seeking out community projects that the workers could get involved with. They donated to Mother-to-Mother, DARE, Meals on Wheels, Relay for Life, 18FORELife, and Shop with a Hero. They are continuing to find ways to give back to Dexter and expand their industry.

Tyson is another major employer with around 625 employees. They started in 1935 in Arkansas and soon after opened a Dexter plant. Over the years this industry's operation in Dexter has grown and today their product goes from the egg to our tables. In fact, we enjoyed their product this evening. They are eager to help the community with donations and volunteer work. They are a huge supporter of our local farm families and keep the poultry business alive and growing around our area. they are involved with the Downtown Fall Festival, they are a sponsor of the Dexter's Grille it Up Cook-Off in July, a big supporter of the Chamber and much more. Mark makes sure his team is happy and makes a huge effort to acknowledge each one of them by name.

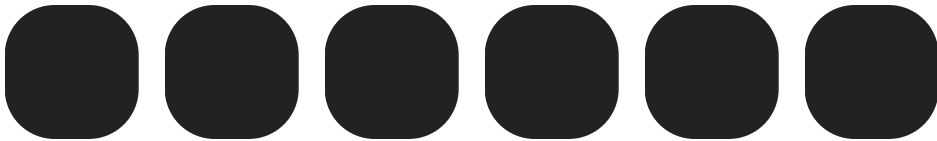
The 2015 Industry of the Year is Tyson Foods.

Photo credit to Dee Loflin, ShowMe Times Manager/Editor.

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