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Ribbon Cutting for Grey Elephant Clothing

SEPTEMBER 14TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Ribbon Cutting for Grey Elephant Clothing

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting at Grey Elephant Clothing in downtown Dexter.

Kristen Wagner, store owner, recently moved the business to 25 E. Stoddard Street. She offers women's and children's clothing and accessories.

Store hours are 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Shown in the photo from left to right are Chamber Executive Director Hillary Starnes, Chamber president Debbie Stidham, Tyler Wagner, Kristen Wagner, Quinn Garner, Candice Garner, Jude Garner, Amelia Jenkins, and Alisha Trammell. Back row from left to right are Chamber Director Rhonda Hall, Wendell Wagner, Chamber Director Christine Young, Connie Hampton, Bill Hampton, and Christine Jenkins.

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Stoddard County Children's Home Receives Donations

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Stoddard County Children's Home Receives Donations

The following individuals have made donations in July and August to the Stoddard County Children's Home, Inc. in Memory or in Honor of a loved one.

Anna Kristina Stokes in Memory of Opal Bondurant Tamra & Randall Terry in Memory of Opal Bondurant Ishmael Smith in Memory of Alice Vaughn Griffey

New Bethen Church in Honor of Cheerful Workers Class Doris Moore in Memory of M.C. Moore

Lynn Hassell in Memory of Percy Clippard

Cecil Vincent in Memory of Kenneth Brock

Mike & Susie Meese in Memory of Bobby Johnson

S.D. & N. N. Arnold in Memory of Opal Bondurant

George & Janice Arnold in Memory of Opal Bondurant

Norman & Leslie Knicl in Memory of Opal Bondurant

Deane Williams in Memory of Melvin "Churn" Williams

Sherry & Jim Paules in Memory of Betty Guinn

Class of 1957 in Memory of Carolyn "Douglas" Reasons

Kenneth & Carolyn Walters in Memory of Billy Aycock

Marv & Freda Ferguson in Memory of Rev. Wiley McGhee

Darrel & Debbie Crow in Memory of Billy West Aycock

Bruce & Karen Dawson in Memory of Billy Aycock

Steve & Norma Womack in Memory of Opal Bondurant

Bobby Lowrey Farms in Memory of Karen Seiler, Jim Spitler, Myrtle Adams & AB

Campbell Holly & Jay Lemons in Memory of Elaine Lemons

Dirk, Marcia, Taylor & Zack Eggiman in Memory of David VanGennip

Bud & Donna Wilson in Memory of Jarnett Trospen

Amy Seals in Honor of Ruby Elaine Lemons

Denny & Linda Blake in Memory of Charles "Chase" Chilcutt

Doug & Lydia Temples in Memory of Earl Hutchison

Randy & Betty Russell in Memory of Harold Wright

Randy & Betty Russell in Memory of Earl (Hutch) Hutchison

Carl Godwin in Memory of Earl (Hutch) Hutchison

Advance Community Teachers Assn. in Memory of Cecilia Beel-Wilton

Joe & Cynthia French in Honor of John & Janet Davis 50th Wedding Anniversary James

& Carrol Russell in Memory of Earl (Hutch) Hutchison

Jane, Stan, Tim, & Kevin Flowers & Families in Memory of Bob Rowe

Jane, Stan, Tim, & Kevin Flowers & Families in Memory of Henry John Ruhl

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Local Residents Chosen as State Fair Farm Family for Stoddard County

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Local residents chosen as State Fair Farm Family for Stoddard County

Bloomfield, Missouri - Bobby and Jackie Harmon and daughter, Miley, of Puxico, MO were among the families honored during the Missouri Farm Family Day, Aug. 15 at the Missouri State Fair.

The Harmon family was selected as the Stoddard County Missouri Farm Family by the Stoddard County Extension Council and local Farm Bureau. Each year, the fair sets aside a day to recognize farm families from across the state who are active in their communities, involved in agriculture and participate in local outreach and extension programs such as 4-H or FFA.

The annual event is sponsored by five partner agencies, including the Missouri Farm Bureau, the Missouri Department of Agriculture, the Missouri State Fair and Commissioners, the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and University of Missouri Extension.

This was the first year in its 58-year history that all 114 counties participated by nominating a family.

The event showcases the impact Missouri Farm Families have on the economy and heritage of our state. “These families are involved in agriculture activities in their communities, and are active participants in local outreach and extension,” said Missouri State Fair Director Mark Wolfe. “As the showcase for Missouri agriculture, the Missouri State Fair is most certainly the appropriate place to celebrate these families.”

Pictured: Front Row – Bobby, Miley and Jackie Harmon.

Back row dignitaries include: Rob Kallenbach, Asst. Dean of Ag Extension, MU College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources, Todd Hays, Vice President, Missouri Farm

Bureau, Ted Sheppard, State Fair Commissioner, Lani Ogle, 2016 Missouri State Fair Queen, Jack Magruder, State Fair Commissioner, Barbara Hayden, State Fair Commissioner, and Lloyd Wilson, Deputy Director, Missouri Department of Ag

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First Midwest Bank Begins Downtown Renovation Project

SEPTEMBER 12TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

[First Midwest Bank Begins Downtown Renovation Project](#)

Dexter, Missouri - Jerry Dorton, Executive Vice President of First Midwest Bank of Dexter, recently announced plans to renovate the downtown Dexter banking facility.

The downtown facility has served First Midwest Bank's customers since 1964; first as the main banking facility and later a branch. More than 50 years later, the location continues to serve customers who work or live nearby.

“Updating our facility reflects our continued commitment to keeping historic downtown Dexter a thriving and successful part of the community,” said Dorton.

To better serve the needs of banking customers, the facility will see significant improvements to the teller and lobby area, including additional office space. The new layout will encourage more engaging and secure transactions between customers and bank tellers. The interior will include a mix of traditional and modern design elements, including embellishments with large-scale graphic compositions highlighting First Midwest Bank's connection to the Dexter community.

Construction began on Tuesday, August 9 with anticipated completion the end of November. Customers may conduct business as usual during construction, either by visiting the temporarily relocated teller windows inside or utilizing the drive-up lanes.

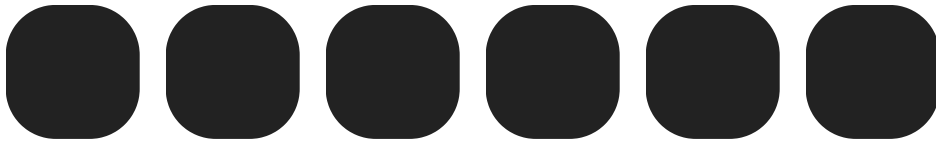
Brown Construction Co. will lead the renovation efforts. Brown Construction Co. has extensive experience working with First Midwest Bank, including the construction of their main bank facility in 2012. Fixtures will be fabricated by DEI Corp., a national design/build company that creates sales environments for banks and credit unions including new buildings and renovations.

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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31st Annual Industrial Appreciation Week

SEPTEMBER 11TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

31st Annual Industrial Appreciation Week

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter Chamber of Commerce proudly celebrates the 31st Annual Industrial Appreciation Week September 12th - 16th.

Duley Machine Shop is Dexter's oldest industry. They have been in business for 89 years. Tyson Foods has been in Dexter for 80 years.

Other industries include: Republic Services (46 years), Specialty Engineering Corp (43 years), Faurecia Emissions Control Technologies (42 years), Stoddard County Sheltered Workshop (40 years), Holden Pallet Company (33 years), U.S. Poly Enterprises, Inc. (31 years), Bootheel Tool & Machinery (28 years), Central Pallet Supply (27 years), Pallet Recycling (23 years), BA Promotions & Marketing, LLC (20 years), Bootheel Recycling (11 years), and Global Fuels (10 years).

On Monday, September 12th Mayor Joe Weber will sign a proclamation at the Chamber of Commerce at 8:00 a.m. It's also Sweet Treat Day for all employees, sponsored by SoutheastHEALTH of Stoddard County.

Tuesday, September 13th is Cookie Day for all Employees, sponsored by Saint Francis Health Center.

Wednesday, September 14th is the annual 4-Person Golf Scramble at Hidden Trails Country Club. The cost is \$60 per player and has a shotgun start of 1:00 p.m. Entry fee

included green fees, mulligans, and a meal after the Scramble, also car if needed. To register call (573) 624-7458.

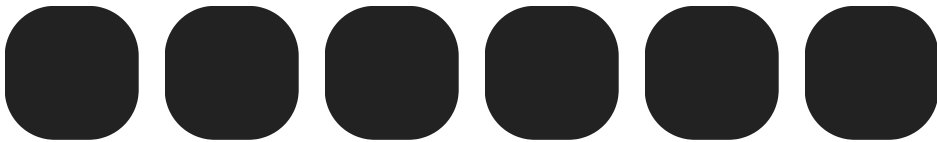
Thursday, September 15th is Donut Day for all employees and the weekend ends with a Breakfast for industry managers, sponsors and invited guests.

A special thank you and recognition to all the sponsors: Allen Christian, Inc., Saint Francis Health Center, SoutheastHEALTH of Stoddard County, Bank of Advance, First Midwest Bank, FM Bank of SEMO, Pizza Hut, Chris Brannan Insurance, Ozark Federal Credit Union, Southern Bank, AT&T, County Wide Abstract & Title Co., Doug Libla for Senate, First State Bank and Trust, Montgomery Bank, Three Rivers College, and Tila Hubrecht for State Representative.

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