

Features



[TOP](#)

Christmas Reading Set for Sat, November 26th

NOVEMBER 23RD 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Christmas Reading Set for Sat, November 26th

Dexter, Missouri - The 8th Annual Christmas Reading is slated for Saturday, November 26th beginning at 6:00 p.m. at 125 W. Stoddard Street across from Rainey-Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter.

Greg Mathis began the annual Christmas Reading by reading the Second Chapter of Luke in 2009 and has not become a wonderful tradition.

June Coffey, Lisa's mother and Greg's mother-in-law read the Christmas story from Luke 2 every Christmas Eve to their two boys when they were young. It was a tradition Greg decided to share with others through the Christmas reading. Mrs. Coffey passed away in 2015.

“Too often we tend to get caught up in the rush of the holiday season,” Mathis said. “It is simply a reading by a special person in the local community who tells aloud the true story of the first Christmas.”

The event is outside and everyone is encouraged to attend. A special guest will read the story of the first Christmas, but you have to attend to find out who the secret guest will be this year. Also the Crowley Ridge Mennonite Church will once again bless us with their beautiful magical voices.

In case of inclement weather the event will be moved indoors to the chapel at Rainey Mathis Funeral Home.

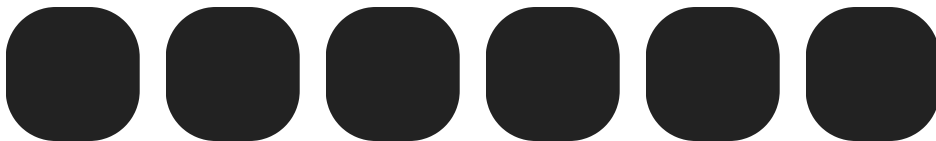
Greg Mathis has created a website if you would like to learn more about the event, click

HERE.

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[Go to post](#)



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TOP

Bernie PAT November Student of the Month

NOVEMBER 02ND 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bernie PAT November Student of the Month

Bernie, Missouri - Parents as Teachers in Bernie have selected Elijah Carroll Lawrence Mathis as the October Student of the Month.

Elijah was born August 11, 2015 and is the son of John and Nikki Mathis. He loves to read, play with his horse and dog, play ball, and bath time.

During the family's PAT visits, Nikki and Elijah most enjoy the new books they receive and spending time reading them together.

If you would like to know more about Parents as Teachers contact Courtney McGarity or Casey Arnold 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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Sindle and Blocker Receive Home Town Hero Awards

OCTOBER 27TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Sindle and Blocker Receive Home Town Hero Awards

Bloomfield, Missouri - Two long-time custodians were honored with Hometown Hero Awards at Bloomfield Public Schools on Tuesday, October 25th.

Darrell Sindler and Bruce Blocker tricked into coming to the high school gymnasium to an enthusiastic crowd of students from kindergarten - 12th grade. Members of the band and flag corps were on hand to welcome them at the entrance.

They received the awards from Modern Woodmen.

Bruce Blocker graduated from Bloomfield High School in 1980. He was hired as a custodian for the district and began work on August 1, 1990. This is his 28th year working for the district. Both of his parents, Flora and Eugene Blocker also worked as custodians at the school.

Darrell Sindler graduated from Bloomfield High School in 1986. He began working as a custodian for the district on September 24, 1997. This is his 20th year working for the district. Both of his parents, Nadene and Charles Sindler worked for Bloomfield Schools.

"Both of these gentlemen have spent almost their entire lives in the halls of Bloomfield schools," said Lara Thorn, a Modern Woodman representative. "Their dedication to our school and students is a testament to the type of men they are - the type of people we want around our students as examples. I can't say enough good things about Bruce and Darrell and can't express how much these two deserve the title of 'Hometown Hero.'"

Each Hero will receive a check to be donated to a charity of their choosing.

Shown in the photo are from left to right: Front row - Isaac Hendley, Ryker Chasteen, and Avery White. 2nd row - Katie Hendley, Cheyenne Brown, Wyatt Hendley, Bruce Blocker, Ashton White, Darrell Sindler, and Lara Thorn. Back row - Will Thorn, Gavin

Chasteen , Kurtis O'Neal , Matt Gibbs , Skye Brown , Sam Gibbs and Alex Gibbs.

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[Go to post](#)



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[TOP](#)

Ribbon Cutting for Main Street Pizza in Bernie

OCTOBER 21ST 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Ribbon Cutting for Main Street Pizza in Bernie](#)

Bernie, Missouri - A ribbon cutting officially welcoming Main Street Pizza to Bernie was held on Friday, October 7, 2016.

The restaurant is owned by Marisa Farmer.

Main Street Pizza is open Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 5:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday they are open from 5:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Several people were in attendance to welcome them to the community. Among them were Joey McGowan, Marci McGowan, Mayor James Tilmon, Taylor Matey, Jessica Ellison, Mary Freeman, Alderman Tim Gage, Doyle Burch, Ivan Mekan, David Bess, Marisa Farmer (owner), and her daughter Jasmine.

Photo submitted.

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[Go to post](#)



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[TOP](#)

Missouri S&T Crowns 2016 Homecoming Royalty

OCTOBER 17TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Missouri S&T Crowns 2016 Homecoming Royalty](#)

On Saturday, October 15, 2016 Missouri S&T crowned their 2016 Homecoming Royalty at the halftime football game between MO S&T and Lincoln University.

Abigail Dare, a senior in nuclear engineering from Puxico, Missouri was named the Missouri S&T 2016 Homecoming Queen.

She was nominated by Pi Kappa Alpha.

Homecoming king was Scott Schroer was named Homecoming King and is from Iowa City, Iowa.

Various Missouri S&T student organizations nominated candidates for queen and king. The winners were selected after interviews and a campus wide election that was held the week before Homecoming.

Abigail is the daughter of Dr. Kyle W. Dare and Carmel Dare of Puxico. She was also the Salutatorian of the Class of 2013. Missouri S&T is located in Rolla, Missouri.

Congratulations Abigail!

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