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Three Rivers Celebrates Class of 2017 at Commencement Ceremony

MAY 30TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Three Rivers Celebrates Class of 2017 at Commencement Ceremony

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Three Rivers College filled the Black River Coliseum to celebrate the institution's newest graduating class on Friday, May 19. Approximately 590 students in Three Rivers' degree and certificate programs were eligible to walk across the stage during Friday's ceremony.

Stan Berry, a Three Rivers alumnus, Army veteran, and editor at the Daily American Republic in Poplar Bluff, gave the keynote address to the Class of 2017. In his speech, Berry spoke to the necessity of strength and determination in life, a lesson that he credited to his mother.

"She'd send us trooping off to school with a warm breakfast in our bellies, and then she'd go to the garment factory to spend eight hours doing piecework on a sewing machine," said Berry. "I don't know where she got the strength."

Eric Schalk, Chair of the Three Rivers College Board of Trustees, and Dr. Wesley Payne, President of Three Rivers College, also spoke at the event. The Three Rivers College Choir, directed by Sherry Mitchell, performed an arrangement of "In My Life" by John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

"Education is the key to better lives for students, for their families, and for the communities from which they come," said Schalk. "Remember: you are the future, and it

looks to be a bright one.”

The college honored several outstanding graduates at the ceremony, and recognized its many first-generation, non-traditional, veteran, and multi-generation graduates. Among the individual graduates spotlighted were:

- Misty-Love Lopez, a New York City native and first-generation graduate, who has been deeply involved in campus life at Three Rivers, including serving as an Academic Coach in the ACHIEVE program and President of the Student Government Association.
- Yvone White, a non-traditional student who enrolled at Three Rivers at the age of 72, over 60 years after dropping out of school in eighth grade to help support his family.
- The Coleman and Heaton families, a set of multi-generation graduates. Shelby Coleman; her husband, Cody; her brothers, Casey Heaton and Michael Heaton; and her sister-in-law, Rhonda Heaton, all graduated this year with degrees in Education.
- Robert Wake, a veteran graduate and Purple Heart recipient who came to Three Rivers after overcoming a traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder. Wake is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa academic honor society, served as President of the Student Veterans Association, and received the Mo-Kan-Ne TRiO Achiever award for his participation in Three Rivers’ ACHIEVE program.

This year marks the 49th anniversary of the college’s first commencement ceremony since its founding in 1966. Since then, Three Rivers has served over 100,000 students from its degree, transfer, and career-technical programs. Registration is currently open for Fall classes at Three Rivers. To learn more about registering for classes at Three Rivers, call the Welcome Center at 573-840-9605 or visit trcc.edu.

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Moore Receives Foundation Scholarship

MAY 30TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Moore Receives Foundation Scholarship

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Mackenzie Moore has been awarded the \$1,000 Poplar Bluff Public School Foundation scholarship.

Moore has completed 59 credits at Three Rivers College while attending high school through the College Now program. She has plans to enroll in Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, where she will study elementary education with a focus on middle school language arts. Upon completing her master's, she hopes to secure a teaching job in Poplar Bluff, "giving back to the community that gave so much to me," she said.

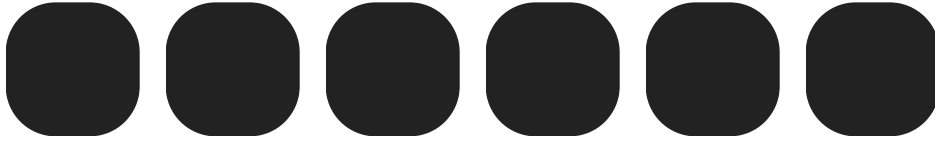
The foundation scholarship has been awarded to Poplar Bluff High School students, past graduates or present-day, since 2001. The foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit dedicated to furthering the educational opportunities of its students and promoting innovation in the classroom.

Pictured: Foundation president Dr. Amber Richardson awards PBHS senior Mackenzie Moore a teaching scholarship on Wednesday, April 26.

Photos and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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Education Commissioner and Legislators Honor Student

MAY 30TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Education Commissioner and Legislators Honor Student

Poplar Bluff, Missouri - Poplar Bluff High School senior Hamiz Mirza was among 15 select students to receive the Missouri Award for Outstanding Achievement in Citizenship on Monday, April 17, in Jefferson City.

The annual state honor—based on academic achievement, participation in extracurricular activities and service to the community—was established in 1989 as a provision under Senate Bill 198. Mirza will also be recognized on the American Bar Association’s Civics and Law Honor Roll.

“A lot of kids can ace government class, but it’s another thing to go out into the

community and change lives,” said Mirza’s AP government teacher Mitch Davis during a special recognition Thursday, April 20, at the school board meeting.

Davis and R-I Superintendent Scott Dill presented Mirza with resolutions from the Missouri House of Representatives and Senate signed by Speaker Todd Richardson and Sen. Doug Libla, respectively.

Mirza, who has been accepted at St. Louis University, received straight A’s in several advanced social studies classes throughout his high school career, during which he served as captain of the speech and debate team, placing first last year in a district contest. This school year he helped found the Politics Club, a non-partisan student organization that meets weekly, and was responsible for hosting a watch party attended by over 100 students on presidential election night.

“I would argue he has been successful in changing the dialogue in our school from hyperpartisan to more of a reflective, collegial atmosphere where it is now ‘cool’ to hear the other side’s views about the role and scope of government in our everyday lives,” wrote Davis on Mirza’s nomination form, which was also signed by PBHS Principal Mike Kiehne.

Perhaps even more meaningful, as Davis indicated to the Board of Education, Mirza volunteered over 200 hours to Smiles of Hope Dental Clinic, a nonprofit operation that began with one philanthropist making monthly clinical visits to a church. The clinic grew within several years to acquire about a dozen licensed dentists, treating more than 2,000 people and extracting over 6,000 teeth, for little to no cost to the patient.

Mirza was further inspired to spend 50 hours of his own, teaching proper dental care to children at churches and schools. He also volunteered 120 hours at the United Gospel Rescue Mission, along with splitting another 100 hours between hospital work and teaching swimming.

“While witnessing single mothers struggling to feed their children, a health care system that has failed many, and a country that is more divided and partisan than ever, it is easy to allow pessimism to leak into one’s own life,” wrote Mirza in a qualifying essay about citizenship. He went on to state: “As citizens of a representative democracy, the burden of ensuring our government is running properly doesn’t just lie with the people working in Washington – it relies on the work and involvement of everyday citizens who vote and raise awareness for what they believe is right.”

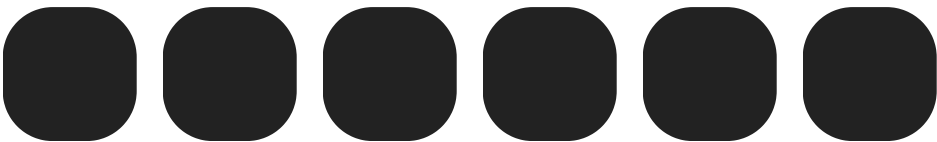
Pictured are PBHS instructor Mitch Davis (left) and R-I Superintendent Scott Dill (right) present Hamiz Mirza with official resolutions for his model citizenry during the school board meeting.

Photo and article submitted by Tim Krakowiak, Communications/Marketing Director, Poplar Bluff R-I School District

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Dexter School Board Holds Special Meeting on Friday Morning

MAY 26TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter School Board Holds Special Meeting on Friday Morning

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter School Board met in a Special Board Meeting on May 26, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. Below are the minutes from today's meeting.

Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge The Board President announced the meeting is to begin, ascertains the attendance status of all board members with all members being present. He then leads in the saying of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Old Business:

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

A. There was no new business to discuss.

Discussion Items:

A. Updates to MSBA Policies and Administrative Procedures ADF, ADF-AP1 and EF-AP1 were discussed with the board.

In Closed Session:

1. The board accepted the resignations/retirements of the following:

Lori Murphy, ACE Teacher

Kaylee Hessling, 5th Grade Teacher

2. The board employed Alexis Rauls as a 5th grade teacher for the 2017-2018 school year.

3. Discussion of administrative personnel.

Items presented to the board for informational purposes for future meetings or for discussion include: None at this time

LAST UPDATED ON MAY 26TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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DHS Graduates Earn Over 1.3 Million in Scholarships

MAY 25TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

DHS Graduates Earn Over 1.3 Million in Scholarships

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter High School Class of 2017 earned more than 1.3 million dollars in scholarships. If each student completes their two or four year degree they will have utilized \$1, 357, 889 in scholarship monies.

Below is the complete list of students and their scholarships as of graduation day.

HARLEY ALLEN

Southeast Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship 750
Southeast Missouri State University Regent's Scholarship 23916
MO Girls State Residence Life Leadership Award 1000
A+ Scholarship 4000

HAILEY ANDERSON

A+ Scholarship 4000

MCKENZIE ANTHONY

Southeast MO State University. Residence Life Leadership Scholarship 1000
A+ Scholarship 4000

KELLY ASH

A+ Scholarship 4000

WESTON AVERY

SEMO Electric Co-op Scholarship 750
Dexter Kiwanis Club Scholarship 1000
Dexter Lions Club Scholarship 1500
Heartland Ag Scholarship 2000
Bank of Advance Scholarship 1000
SEMO Cattlemen's Assoc. Scholarship 500
Dexter Elk's Scholarship 500
A+ Scholarship 4000

JACKSON BABB

Three Rivers Music Scholarship 5520
Dexter Housing Authority Scholarship

ABIGAIL BATES

Southeast MO State University Residence Life Scholarship 4000
A+ Scholarship 4000

CALEB BESS

Regina Duckworth Memorial Scholarship 1000
Dexter Elk's Club Scholarship 500
Dexter Eagle's Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship 500
A+ Scholarship 4000

JUSTIN BESS

A+ Scholarship 4000

CALEB BLUNT

Dexter Lion's Club Scholarship 1000
Southeast Missouri State University Regents Scholarship 32000
A+ Scholarship 4000

WILL BREHMER

Murray State Provost Scholarship 27388
Heartland Ag Scholarship 2000
Dexter Elk's Scholarship 500

John Bryant Ag Scholarship 500
Arvella Totten Scholarship 500
Jason Stidham Memorial Scholarship 250

KAYLEE CAREY

Crowley Ridge Athletic Scholarship 2325
A+ Scholarship 4000

KATIE COLEMAN

A+ Scholarship 4000

JARED COOKSON

Dexter Elks Scholarship 500

HALEY CORNETT

Southeast Missouri State University Scholarship 8000
Southeast MO State University. Residence Life Leadership Award 4000
Stoddard County Development Foundation Scholarship 500
A+ Scholarship 4000

CARLY DEAN

Southeast Missouri State University Scholarship 8000

CHARLES FORTNER

Dexter Junior League Bowling Award 500

TARYN FORTNER

Southeast Missouri State University Scholarship 8000
Montgomery Family Foundation Scholarship 4000
A+ Scholarship 4000

MEGAN FOSTER

A+ Scholarship 4000

GEORGE FROST

A+ Scholarship 4000

ANDREW GARNER

MO State Promise Scholarship. 1500

1st Christian Church-Rotha Wilson Scholarship. 500

A+ Scholarship 4000

CIDNEY GATHINGS

Bridge to Success Award

Residence Life Award

BRITTANY GIBSON

A+ Scholarship 4000

BRIANNA GOURLEY

Vocational Rehabilitation Award

A+ Scholarship 4000

MACY GRAVES

Heartland Ag Scholarship 2000

A-State Pride 24000

Montgomery Family Foundation Scholarship 2000

A+ Scholarship 4000

VERONICA HAMPTON

A+ Scholarship 4000

JACOB HARRIS

SEMO Electric Co-op Scholarship 750

Missouri State University Scholarship 24000

MO Bright Flight Scholarship 10000

Dexter Beta Club Scholarship 500

Ruth Covington Scholarship 500

HANNAH HAYNES

A+ Scholarship 4000

JOHNNA HINKLIN

Three Rivers College Music Scholarship 5520

A+ Scholarship 4000

PEYTON HOLCOMB

A+ Scholarship 4000

BETHANY HYTEN

Jerry & Laverne Waddle Scholarship 500
Sheriff Jim Elliott Memorial Scholarship 4000
BEC/Ambassador's Scholarship 4000
A+ Scholarship 4000

JASON JARRELL

SEMO Electric Co-op Scholarship 750
Evangel University Academic Scholarship 15500
Evangel University Baseball Scholarship
MSHSAA Award of Excellence
A+ Scholarship 4000

EMILY JOHNS

Monsanto Scholarship 1000
Stoddard County Fair Board Scholarship 1500
UMKC Conservatory of Music Scholarship 26000
Dexter Faculty Scholarship 500
A+ Scholarship 4000

LACEY MARIE JOHNSON

A+ Scholarship 4000

GARRETT KEATHLEY

Three Rivers College Incentive Scholarship 7680

KELSEY KENDRICK

MO Bright Flight Scholarship 10000
MO State University. Board of Governor's Scholarship 20000

JACLYN KIGER

Pat Brickhaus Memorial Scholarship 250
Dexter CTA Education Scholarship 500
A+ Scholarship 4000

GARRETT LARAMORE

A+ Scholarship 4000

TAYLIN LEIJA

Southeast MO State University. Bridge to Success Scholarship 300

JANIE LINDSEY

Southeast Missouri State University Regents Scholarship 24000

James Harold Pallus Biology Scholarship 4000

Dexter Altrusa Club Scholarship 500

Dexter Booster Club Scholarship 500

ABIGAIL MANGUM

Three Rivers College Music Scholarship 5520

Rotary Interact Scholarship 500

MO Bright Flight Scholarship 2500

Dexter Rotary Club 1000

ETHAN MARTINEZ

MO State Promise Scholarship 2500

ALEXIS MAY

Shelter Insurance Scholarship 2000

Beta Sigma Phi Scholarship 500

Dexter Elks Scholarship 500

Stoddard County Farm Bureau Scholarship 250

American Red Cross Scholarship 500

Ruth Covington Scholarship 500

Virgie G. Wilson Memorial Scholarship 2500

Rotary Interact Scholarship 500

Dexter Rotary Club 1000

Dexter Booster Club Scholarship 500

Dexter Eagle's Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship 500

A+ Scholarship 4000

TYLER MAYFIELD

A+ Scholarship 4000

ANGEL MAZE

Three Rivers College Incentive Scholarship 7680

A+ Scholarship 4000

MADISON MCCONNELL

Audrey C. Fralick Memorial Scholarship 2000
A+ Scholarship 4000

CODY MCFADDIN

John W. Brehmer Ag Scholarship 500
Jamie Sifford Memorial Scholarship 500
A+ Scholarship 4000

MELISSA MCKUIN

A+ Scholarship 4000

REAGAN MILLER

U.S. Naval Academy Scholarship 40,000
1st Christian Church Rotha Wilson Scholarship 500
A+ Scholarship 4,000

SARAH MILLER

Southeast MO State University Vocal Talent Scholarship 6,000
Southeast MO State University Residence Life Scholarship 4,000
Dexter Rotary Club Scholarship 1,000
Rotary Interact Scholarship 500
Belmont Leadership Scholarship 1,500
A+ Scholarship 4,000

ANTHONY MOORE

A+ Scholarship 4,000

CHEYENNE MOSBY

Dexter Faculty Scholarship 500
A+ Scholarship 4,000

EMILY MOUSER

St. Louis University Dean's Scholarship 72,000
St. Louis University Enhanced Merit Scholarship 8,000
Stoddard County Fair Board Scholarship 1,000
SEMO Electric Scholarship 750
Heartland Ag Scholarship 2,000
Dexter Lions Scholarship 1,500

John Bryant Ag Scholarship 500
John W. Brehmer Ag Scholarship 1,000
Arvella Totten Scholarship 500
Danzil & Pauline Dowdy Family Scholarship 1,000
A+ Scholarship 4000

CHELSEA MULLINS

St. Louis College of Pharmacy Academic Scholarship 21,000

KAYLEA MURDOCK

A+ Scholarship 4,000

EMILY PAGE

A-State Pride Scholarship 29,280

A+ Scholarship 4,000

BLAKE PALMER

Three Rivers College Cheerleading Scholarship 2,000

HUNTER PARROTT

MO State Troopers Assoc Scholarship 100

A+ Scholarship 4,000

NATALEE PEDROZA

Missouri State University Inclusive Excellence Award 8,000

CAROLINE PENBERTHY

Dexter Elks Scholarship 500

A+ Scholarship 4,000

ZACHARY POTTS

Dexter Elks Scholarship 500

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Scholarship 500

Montgomery Family Foundation Scholarship 500

A+ Scholarship 4,000

CAROLINE POWERS

Virgie G. Wilson Memorial Scholarship 2,500

Kastner Memorial Scholarship 200
Southeast MO State University Residence Life Scholarship 4,000
Southeast MO State University Vocal & Performing Arts Scholarship 6,000
Southeast MO State University - University Scholarship 8,000
Columbia College Academic Scholarship 40,000

ZACHARY PROPST

Dexter Junior League Bowling Award 500

TANNER RICKMAN

A+ Scholarship 4,000

DANIEL ROBEY

A+ Scholarship 4,000

SYDNEY ROGERS

A+ Scholarship 4,000

BRYCE SIMMONS

A+ Scholarship 4,000

OLIVIA SITZES

Audrey C. Fralick Memorial Scholarship 2,000

A+ Scholarship 4,000

BRANDON STONE

Southeast Missouri State University. Lifetime Leadership Award 4,000

MYCA SUTTON

University of MO Chancellor's Award 26,000

MO Bright Flight Scholarship 12,500

Show-Me Scholars Award 1,500

A+ Scholarship 4,000

ANDREW TEEL

Three Rivers College Music Scholarship 5,520

A+ Scholarship 4,000

ALYSSA TEETS

Jack & Elsie Smarr Scholarship 690
Karen Pippens Memorial Scholarship 500
A+ Scholarship 4,000

KIRSTEN TEFFERTILLER

Montgomery Family Foundation Scholarship 12,000
A+ Scholarship 4,000

MCKINNA TIDWELL

A+ Scholarship 4,000

MACY URHAHN

SEMO Athletic Conference Scholarship 250
Sacred Heart Catholic Church Scholarship 500
Montgomery Family Foundation Scholarship 1,000
A+ Scholarship 4,000

LILLIAN WHITEHEAD

A+ Scholarship 4,000

BRIANNA WRIGHT

Southeast Missouri State University Regent's Scholarship 48,000
A+ Scholarship 4,000

ASHLYNN WYMAN

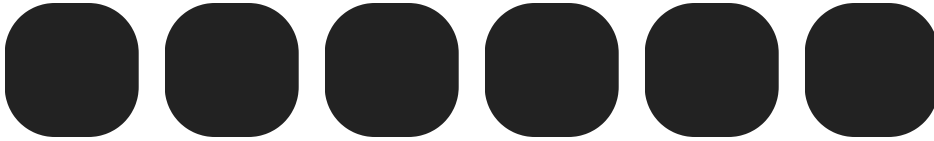
Dexter Kiwanis Club Scholarship 1,000
Dexter Lions Club Scholarship 1,000
Heartland Ag Scholarship 2,000
MO Assoc. of Insurance Companies Scholarship 1,000
Missouri State University Dean's Scholarship 1,500
Missouri Girl's State Scholarship 1,000
Missouri State University Residence Life Scholarship 1,000
Missouri State University -University Scholarship 2,000
John W. Brehmer Ag Scholarship 1,000
MSHSAA Award of Excellence
A+ Scholarship 4,000

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS \$1,357,889

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