Features

TOP

Jill Gibbs Honored as Hometown Hero

JULY 25TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Jill Gibbs Honored as Hometown Hero

Bloomfield, Missouri - Jill Gibbs, longtime volunteer and resident of Bloomfield was recently honored with Hometown Hero Awards at Bloomfield School softball/baseball field.

Jill has volunteered for several years helping the community running the concession stand at the little league baseball and softball games at Bloomfield City Park. Even after her son has graduated from high school she continued to show up in the heat and gets everything ready so the parents and family have something cold to drink and a snack as they watch their little leaguers play on the field.

The award is provided by Modern Woodman and a \$50 donation will be given to a charity of the recipient's choice. Mrs. Gibbs has chosen Claus for a Cause as her charity.

Modern Woodman, Fraternal Financial believes in volunteer service and as a service organization is dedicated to improving the quality of life for families and communities, they recognize Jill's accomplishments and appreciate her contribution to the community.

Shown in the photo are Jill Gibbs and Lara Thorn, presenting the award and all of her many fans!

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JAKES Day Set for Saturday at Stars & Stripes Museum

JUNE 09TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

JAKES Day Set for Saturday at Stars & Stripes Museum

Bloomfield, Missouri - The annual JAKES Day sponsored by the Crowley's Ridge Limbhangers Local Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation is slated for Saturday, June 10, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Stars and Stripes Museum in Bloomfield. Registration is at 7:30 a.m.

This is a FREE event fro ages 5 - 17 years old. Parents and their children will enjoy a fun filled event with activities to include gun safety training, archery shoot, primitive skills, water safety, Smokey the Bear, candy cannon, and more demonstrations.

Lunch will be provided.

The Stars and Stripes Museum is located on Highway 25 next to the Missouri Veterans Cemetery.

JAKES is dedicated to informing, educating and involving youth in wildlife conservation and the wise stewardship of our natural resources.

NWTF chapters provide youth chances to explore their outdoor world through fun events that help pass on the traditions of responsible hunting, teach the principles of habitat management, hunting ethics and safety.

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Memorial Day Ceremony Planned at Veterans Cemetery

MAY 26TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Memorial Day Ceremony Planned at Veterans Cemetery

Bloomfield, Missouri - The annual Memorial Day ceremony will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Missouri State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield on Monday, May 29, 2017.

The keynote speaker will be Ken Swearengin.

The American Legion Post #59 Honor Guard will present the POW/MIA Table Ceremony which honors soldiers that were prisoners of war or missing in action from each branch of the U.S. Military.

The Stoddard County Honor Guard will provide the firing of the volley for the Memorial Service.

Swearengin, SMSgt. USAF Ret., has been the director at the cemetery since it opened in 2003. He was honored by the Missouri Veterans Commission by receiving the Employee of the Month Award in 2013. He has also helped organize the cemetery's three annual events, including the Memorial Day Ceremony, Veterans Day Ceremony and Wreaths Across America.

Families and friends of those buried at the cemetery are invited to attend, as well as members of the general public. For more information, contact the cemetery office at (573) 568-3871.

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BANC Crowns 2017 Valentine Queen

FEBRUARY 16TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

BANC Crowns 2017 Valentine Queen

Bloomfield, Missouri - The Bloomfield Area Nutrition Center crowned their 2017 Valentine Queen this week. Several ladies were nominated and patrons voted by placing dollars and coins in their voting containers.

This is an annual fundraiser and more than \$150 was raised for the Bloomfield Area Nutrition Center.

Mildred Palmer was announced the Queen. She raised more than \$126 for this great cause. Her attendants are Rosemary Walker and Stella DeJournett.

Shown in the photo from left to right are Rosemary Walker, Mildred Palmer, and Stella DeJournett.

BANC is located at 609 Delaware St. in Bloomfield. For Meals on Wheels call (573) 895-2142.

"Organization was formed through the willing effort of several willing individuals in the Bloomfield area to meet a need for the areas Senior Citizens. The initial meetings took place during 2007. Town Hall meetings indicated interest and community surveys indicated need. A Board of Directors, a Not-for-profit status was approved by the State of Missouri, and 501(c)(3) status was received from the Federal Government. 0, 2010 was a pivital year for BANC when the organization began serving meals twice monthly in the basement of the Bloomfield City Hall. Support expanded, donations increased, and a building was donated and renovated by volunteers. In January 2010 the first meal was served at the new center on Delaware Street in Bloomfield, MO. BANC serves approximately 65 individuals every Wednesday. the average age is over 70 years."

BANC will host a fundraiser Breakfast on March 11th from 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 10 and under. Carry-Outs will be available (573) 895-2142.

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Annual Wreaths Across America Honors Veterans

DECEMBER 19TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Annual Wreaths Across America Honors Veterans

Bloomfield, Missouri - It was a gorgeous day at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield. The sun was shining, the temperatures were warm and hundreds of volunteers of all ages converged to place beautiful Christmas Wreaths on veterans' graves. It looked to be a record breaking turn-out for the 8th annual Wreaths Across America.

A green wreath with a red ribbon laid across the tombstone of a veteran. It was a simple image, but a powerful message. A message of honor, remembrance and gratitude.

In 1992, Worcester Wreath found themselves with a surplus of wreaths nearing the end of the holiday season. Remembering his boyhood experience at Arlington, Worcester realized he had an opportunity to honor our country's Veterans. With the help of Maine Senator Olympia Snowe, arrangements were made for the wreaths to be placed at Arlington in one of the older sections of the cemetery, a section which had been receiving fewer visitor with each passing year.

In 2007, the Worcester family, along with veterans, and other groups and individuals who had helped with their annual Christmas wreath ceremony in Arlington, formed Wreaths Across America, a nonprofit 501-c3 organization, to continue and expand this effort and support other groups around the country who wanted to do the same. The mission is simple: REMEMBER, HONOR, TEACH.

On December 13, 2008, the U.S. Congress unanimously voted to establish Wreaths Across America Day on the second or third Saturday of December.

Along with scores of other communities around the country, including Arlington National Cemetery, our community came out strong and gathered at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Stoddard County on Saturday, December 17, 2016.

Mr. Randy Dunn served as Master of Ceremony. A Moment of Silence for those fallen, prisoners of war, missing in action, and to honor those who have served this great nation. Jack Gillies conducted the Pledge of Allegiance and Kara King sang a most beautiful National Anthem. Pastor Ronnie Stevens of the First General Baptist Church said the Invocation.

Wreaths of Service were placed by those representing the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, and POW/MIA.

Benediction was performed by Pastor Stevens and the firing volley was performed by the Stoddard County Veterans Honor Guard followed by Taps.

Following the brief ceremony, volunteers scattered throughout the hillside at the cemetery to place a wreath at each headstone in the cemetery. This was the 8th year for the Wreaths Across America at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield.

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