

Features



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Keller Library Now Offering Fishing Gear

SEPTEMBER 05TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Keller Library Now Offering Fishing Gear

Dexter, Missouri - Keller Public Library in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Conservation will begin offering rods, reels, and fishing tackle boxes on September 1, 2017. You will be able to check-out fishing supplies just like you would a book for two weeks.

"This fishing equipment is a great way to serve our community, connect with the public, and meet their interests," commented Keller Public Library Director Pam Trammell. "We are promoting our mission by offering education and recreation to those we serve."

The Missouri Department of Conservation will provide Shakespeare rods and reels along with little tackle boxes containing artificial lures, weights, hooks, and various other tackle.

Anyone with a valid Keller Public Library card will be able to check-out or rent the equipment.

"The Conservation Department has always been a great library partner, providing programs and Story Hours for us," stated Trammell. "We are always looking for ways to better serve the needs of the community in more non-traditional ways."

"We truly appreciate the opportunity the Missouri Department of Conservation has given our patrons through the upcoming fishing classes and fishing gear" Trammell finished.

Shown in the photo are from left to right Salvador Mandragon, Fisheries Management Biologist with the Dept. of Conservation, Pam Trammell, Director of Keller Public Library, and Kamaria Pearson, Angler Education Assistant with the Dept. of Conservation.

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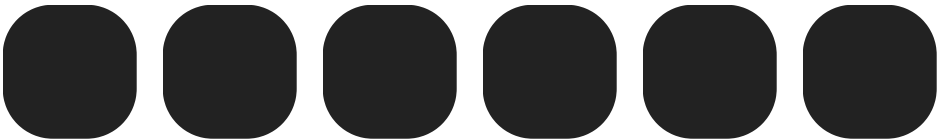
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Bearcats Will Wear No. 20 Decal to Honor Athlete

SEPTEMBER 04TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bearcats Will Wear No. 20 Decal to Honor Athlete

Drexel, Missouri - We all know too well how cancer has touched each and everyone of our lives. We either have been directly affected or know someone who has battled the terrible disease. On Saturday, the Dexter Bearcats football team will travel to Bolivar, Missouri to take on the Drexel Bobcats. Each player will have the #20 on their helmet in honor of one very special Bobcat.

Our boys of fall will be playing in honor of Wyatt Deel. Wyatt is a senior this year at Drexel High School and on May 31, 2017 he was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor called DIPG (Diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma)

Since July 14, 2017 he has been fighting his illness at St. Jude's Childrens Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.

Though St. Jude's provides some housing it does not provide all the expenses incurred with a hospitalized child from a different state.

Wyatt's Warriors was created to help support Wyatt and his family during this difficult time. Several fundraisers and benefits have been set up to raise much needed funds to help the family with travel, food, and lodging expenses. **Follow Wyatt's Warriors on Facebook by clicking [HERE](#).**

18ForeLife based in Dexter will be giving a Love Offering to the family of Wyatt Deel on Saturday, September 9th during the Dexter vs Drexel Football game in Bolivar, Missouri.

"We will be presenting Wyatt with a Love Offering on Saturday." stated Scott Kruse, 18FORELife founder. "It should be a special moment and I hope to meet him and his family. That spirit is what our charity is all about!"

Wyatt is like many of our Bearcats he plays multiple sports. Whether he is on the football field or on the basketball court he wears the #20 proudly. He also has played baseball.

Due to his illness this year he is sidelined, but that has not dampened his spirit and drive for sports. He may even give golf a try for the Bobcats come Spring. He will never give up what he loves to do, Wyatt is a fighter just like anyone who is battling cancer.

Wyatt is described as a character, never knows a stranger, and always full of energy.

He enjoys sports, fishing and hunting.

His parents are Dennis Deel and Katesa Hocker and he is the grandson of Jan Rush of Butler, Bill Hocker of Drexel, and the late Wayne and Dorothy Deel of Drexel. He also has an older brother Hunter who is 19 years old and three step-siblings, Mandy who is 23, Jon who is 19 and Nick who is 18.

His mother, Katesa said, "We are currently getting treatments at St. Jude's Children Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. We have been so blessed in our journey and thank you to everyone for your support. Wyatt is truly amazing!!"

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Code Red Presented by the Dexter Chamber of Commerce

AUGUST 31ST 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Code Red Presented by the Dexter Chamber of Commerce

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter Chamber of Commerce wants to see your BEARCAT pride on September 22, 2017 for the Homecoming Game Day!

The Dexter Chamber encourages every business to show your school spirit by decorating windows, your lawn, or the outside of your business. You can even have a large number of employees participate by wearing their spirited outfits and do a little cheer!

To enter **CODE RED** contest, just call the Chamber at 624-7458 or email to **info@dexterchamber.com**

Judging on two different categories: Commercial Business or Small Business.

Judging will be done by NOON on September 22nd. "We will let you know when the judges will be by your business" stated Hillary Starnes, Dexter Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, "just in case you have a cheer or special affects for the judges.

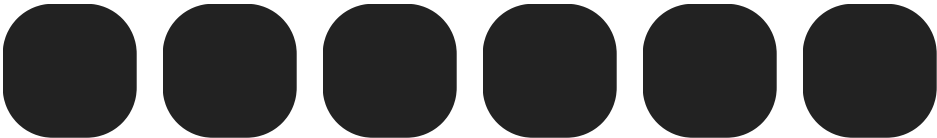
Winners will be announced at the tailgate and will receive a traveling trophy and a free prime tailgating spot at next year's homecoming event!

2016 winners were Farmers Insurance and FM Bank! They got spirit!!! Do you?

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Bernie PAT Students of the Month for September

AUGUST 30TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bernie PAT Students of the Month for September

Bernie, Missouri - Joshua and Daniel Doan are Bernie's Parents as Teachers Students of the Month for September.

Joshua is two years old and enjoys playing with his brothers and sister, playing outside, and listening as his mother reads him books.

Daniel is eight months old and likes to crawl around and get into stuff around the house.

The family's favorite parts of participating in Parents as Teachers are seeing the boys enjoying new activities and getting the opportunity to show their Parent Educator all of the new and exciting things the boys have learned since their last visit.

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.

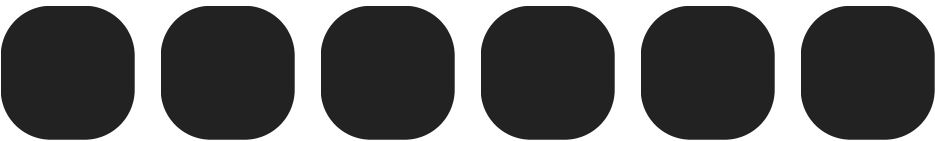
Early childhood professionals suggested that a program to provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues, and parent education to help parents understand their role in encouraging their child's development from the beginning could help improve school readiness and parent involvement.

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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