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2017 Tiny Miss Heartland Named

SEPTEMBER 28TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

2017 Tiny Miss Heartland Named

Dexter, Missouri - The annual Miss Heartland pageants were held on September 10, 2017 at the Dexter High School Auditorium.

The pageants are sponsored by the Dexter High School choral Department.

The 2017 Tiny Miss Heartland is Averiana Kimbrel. She is the daughter of Neil and Tosha Kimbrel.

First Alternate is Annabelle Xandria Grace Shelton. She is the daughter of Jason and Melissa Shelton.

Second Alternate is Lexi Espey. She is the daughter of Thomas and Jerrica Espey.

The 2017 Tiny Miss Heartland winners are shown in the photo (L to R): Anabelle Xandria Grace Shelton, Averiana Kimbrel, and Lexi Espey.

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2017 Wee Miss Heartland Named

SEPTEMBER 28TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

2017 Wee Miss Heartland Named

Dexter, Missouri - The annual Miss Heartland pageants were held on September 10, 2017 at the Dexter High School Auditorium.

The pageants are sponsored by the Dexter High School choral Department.

The 2017 Wee Miss Heartland is Bexley Keigan Horne. She is the daughter of Keith and Ashley Horne.

First Alternate is emery Kate McClintock. She is the daughter of Mark and Ashley McClintock.

The 2017 Wee Miss Heartland winners are shown in the photo: Emery Kate McClintock, and Bexley Keigan Horne.

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Clint Lacy Presents: Blood in the Ozarks

SEPTEMBER 22ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Clint Lacy Presents: Blood in the Ozarks

Bloomfield, Missouri - Deep in the eastern Ozarks of Missouri, a battle still rages about a massacre that happened on Christmas Day of 1863. While some call it a simple rescue mission to liberate captured Union soldiers, others claim that it was mass murder, which included women, children and the elderly.

The Civil War (or the War of the Rebellion as many Southerners prefer to call it), was a bitter and brutal conflict, but perhaps never more so than in the state of Missouri, where the wounds of the Kansas border wars were still open and festering.

Clint Lacy will present "Blood in the Ozarks" at the Stars & Stripes Museum on Monday, September 25th at 6:30 p.m. at the Stoddard County Historical Society meeting.

"Blood in the Ozarks: Union War Crimes against Southern Sympathizers & Civilians in Civil War Missouri

Layout 1 By Clint Lacy. Deep in the eastern Ozarks of Missouri, a battle still rages about a massacre that happened on Christmas Day of 1863. While some call it a simple rescue

mission to liberate captured Union soldiers, others claim that it was mass murder, which included women, children and the elderly.

The Civil War (or the War of the Rebellion as many Southerners prefer to call it), was a bitter and brutal conflict, but perhaps never more so than in the state of Missouri, where the wounds of the Kansas border wars were still open and festering.

Though no famous battles were fought in Missouri, there was severe fighting across the state. In fact, Missouri ranks third in the number of battles and skirmishes during the war. Most of the 1,162 military encounters that took place in the Show Me State were smaller and much more personal than in the Eastern Theater of the war.

The brutality of the conflict was punctuated with multiple Union war crimes, especially in the eastern Ozarks. There, Southern patriots like Joe Shelby, Timothy Reeves and others raised regiments and did the best they could to halt the advance of the better-armed and better-supplied Union juggernaut, conducting lightning raids and surprise attacks—and even beating the Union in pitched battles.

But rather than take their frustrations out upon the rebel forces, Union commanders in the area—Maj. James Wilson, Capt. William Leeper and others—preferred instead to target the civilians of the Ozarks as a way to subjugate the Southern sympathizers of the region. As a result of this policy, 27,000 Missouri citizens were killed during the war.

Starvation, theft, looting, torching homes and outright murder were not uncommon tactics used by this bevy of Federal miscreants whose criminal tactics culminated on Christmas Day 1863 at Tom Pulliam's farm in Ripley County. It was there, on one of the holiest of Christian holidays, a day universally regarded as a day to avoid bloodshed between even the most bitter of enemies, that the Confederates and their families were set upon by a group of Union cavalry under the command of the aforementioned Maj. Wilson.

According to eyewitnesses and numerous other sources, 34 of the attendees were killed and 100 more wounded by the berserk Union Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

To this day, local historians with an axe to grind have worked diligently to cover up this heinous war crime—perhaps the worst of the Civil War—to protect local reputations. Historian Jerry Ponder, who was the first modern historian to expose this Christmas Day massacre—was relentlessly defamed for his pioneering reports on the tragedy. But, despite the recriminations, Ponder never backed off his research or his story.

Sadly, Ponder passed away in 2005, but author Clint Lacy has taken up Ponder's torch of truth and, in this book, Lacy presents all the known evidence, making a strong case that the Wilson Massacre, as it has come to be known, did in fact occur as Ponder claimed, despite the denials of those looking to sweep it under the rug.

But the Wilson Massacre was not the only Union war crime in Missouri. Lacy also discusses many others committed by Union forces in Missouri in his attempt to bring history into accord with the facts and shine the light of truth on one of the darkest periods of American history.

Softcover, foreword by TBR Editorial Board member Prof. Ray Goodwin, six appendices based upon period newspaper reports and diary entries, informative photo section, 157 pages."

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2017 Stoddard County Fair Parade Winners

SEPTEMBER 22ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

2017 Stoddard County Fair Parade Winners

Stoddard County - Missouri - The 2017 Stoddard County Fair Parade float winners have been announced.

In the Commercial Category 1st Place went to Circle G Ranch Supply, 2nd Place went to Busy B Lumber, and 3rd Place went to Pyramid Home Health. Prize money is as follows 1st place gets \$150, 2nd place earns \$100 and 3rd place gets \$50.

In the Schools/Clubs Category 1st Place went to Dexter Headstart, 2nd Place went to Dexter High School FFA,, and 3rd Place went to Puxico High School FFA.

In the Churches & Other Category 1st Place went to Monsanto for Kids, 2nd Place went to Elks Lodge, and 3rd Place went to Stoddard County Nutrition Center.

In the High School Band Competition the Puxico High School Marching Band won 1st Place. Bloomfield High School earned 2nd Place and 3rd Place went to Richland High School. The Dexter Marching Band participates in the parade, but does not compete against the other high school bands in the competition.

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Fitness Plus Celebrates First Year with Open House

SEPTEMBER 22ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Fitness Plus Celebrates First Year with Open House

Dexter, Missouri - Fitness Plus Dexter will celebrate its first anniversary with a community open house on Saturday, September 23, 2017 from 9-11 am.

“We are excited to open up Fitness Plus once again and invite the entire community to stop by and experience what we have to offer,” says Nate Watkins, Fitness Plus Dexter Coordinator. “We love Dexter and are excited to help people meet their fitness and health goals.”

Attendees will enjoy group fitness class demonstrations, free one-on-one sessions with personal trainers to discuss fitness and health goals and tours and guests will also receive a free two-day pass to the facility.

In celebration of the anniversary, two flexible fall membership options are available for new members. Join with no annual contract by choosing a month-to-month membership or sign up with no enrollment fee by selecting a 12-month membership.

Saint Francis Medical Center is a 308-bed facility serving more than 713,000 people throughout Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas. Guided by its mission to provide a ministry of healing and wellness inspired by its Christian philosophy and values, the Medical Center has become a progressive, innovative regional tertiary care referral center. Saint Francis’ major service lines, which have received national recognition, include the Neurosciences Institute; Orthopedic Institute; Family BirthPlace, featuring the region’s first Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit; Heart Hospital; Emergency and Level III Trauma Center; Cancer Institute; and Fitness Plus.

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