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Bernie PAT May 2018 Student of the Month

JUNE 04TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bernie PAT May 2018 Student of the Month

Bernie, Missouri - Carter Johnson is the three year old son of Destiny and Dareth Johnson and is the Bernie Parents as Teachers' student of the month for May.

Carter absolutely loves dinosaurs, playing outside in the sunshine, riding the golf cart with his Mema, and reading books with his Aunt Kim.

During his PAT visits, Carter can't wait to see what Mrs. Courtney has in her special bag and gets excited to see what new book she has brought to read.

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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Missing Child from Bloomfield, Missouri

MAY 29TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Missing Child from Bloomfield, Missouri](#)

The Bloomfield Police Department has posted on their Facebook page that 16-year old Alexendria Rosemarie Lusk is missing from Bloomfield.

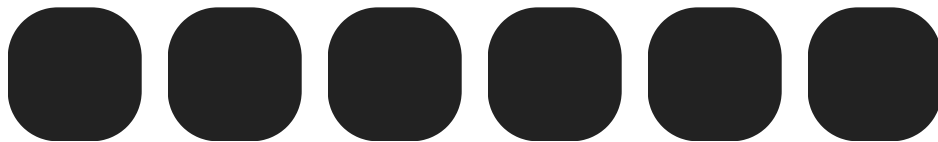
She was last seen at 2 a.m. on May 29, 2018 in her home. She was reported missing at 9:30 a.m. with her black and tan mini Dachshund.

She is 5' 3" and weights about 150 lbs with hazel eyes and brown, curly, medium length hair. She was last seen wearing blue jean shorts and a black t-shirts.

Contact the Bloomfield Police at 573.568.3576 or your local 911.

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John O'Leary to Headline 18ForeLife Banquet on June 1, 2018

MAY 24TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

[John O'Leary to Headline 18ForeLife Banquet on June 1, 2018](#)

Dexter, Missouri - The 2018 guest speaker for the 18 FORE Life banquet is John O'Leary.

The Ben Kruse memorial 18 FORE Life Charity Golf event is set to take place on the weekend of June 1st and 2nd with the banquet on Friday evening.

While most past banquet speakers have survived cancer or had someone in their family to who battled the disease, O'Leary is not a cancer survivor, but at the age of nine suffered burns over his entire body while playing with matches and gasoline in his family's garage.

The burns were so severe that the doctor told his parents he would not survive. He spent months in the hospital and faced many surgeries and years of therapy. Before he was 10 years old, he lost all of his fingers to amputation due to the severe burns he suffered.

O'Leary now speaks across the country, inspiring others to do three things in life:

1. To navigate adversity through decision-making;
2. To reveal a brighter vision for what's possible;
3. and to live boldly to impact others.

Each year, a love offering recipient or family member also is invited to speak at the banquet. This year, members of the Pixley family will be on hand to honor the memory of their brother, Adam, who lost his battle to cancer this year.

"There are still some tickets left for the banquet and we need a few more golf teams as well," commented Scott Kruse. "The cost is only \$30 each." You can contact Mr. Kruse at (573) 614-0503.

The 18 FORE Life Charity has raised over \$2.2 million dollars since its inception in 2000. The charity, through a number of annual events and primarily through donations and the golf tournament are able to provide love offerings to area families in the amount of \$1,000 each.

LAST UPDATED ON MAY 24TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Memorial Day Ceremony Planned at MO State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield

MAY 22ND 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Memorial Day Ceremony Planned at MO State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield

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 28, 2018.

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.

The public is encouraged to attend.

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.

LAST UPDATED ON MAY 22ND 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Congressman Jason Smith Honors Matthew Agey of Dexter

MAY 22ND 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Congressman Jason Smith Honors Matthew Agey of Dexter

Dexter, Missouri - On Saturday U.S. Rep. Jason Smith presented a Congressional Award to Matthew Agey of Dexter. The award is the highest honor given by Congress to a youth who excels in a number of areas including personal development, public service, physical fitness and exploration. The awards can range from several different certificate levels, all the way to bronze, silver and gold medals.

“It’s a great honor for me to acknowledge Matt’s dedication and commitment to reaching his goals and achieving the Congressional Award,” said Smith. “I hope this is the first of many medals I will present to some of the outstanding youth in southern Missouri.”

Matt is the son of Debby and David Agey of Dexter. He earned certificates through the program as he worked to complete the requirement for the medal. While other students in the 8th Congressional District have received certificates, this is the first medal earned by a high school student in the 8th District since Congressman Smith entered office.

To earn the bronze medal, Matt, who will be going into his Junior year at Dexter High School, gave more than 100 hours in voluntary public service in his community and achieved challenging goals in the areas of physical fitness and personal development. Students in the program choose someone to help encourage and guide them through the

process and Matt worked with Sean Vanslyke as his advisor, CEO of SEMO Electric, helping him set his goals and validating his activities in each of four program areas.

Matt served his community by assisting at 4H and Sons of the American Legion events. He helped raise money for Wreaths Across America and local cancer organizations. Matthew volunteered his time to set up community events for children and placed wreaths on graves of veterans. He furthered his physical goals by learning proper rules, technique and skills associated with the game of golf and participated in the Junior PGA. He also pursued aggressive physical development for the upcoming football season.

“The Congressional Award is a way to encourage students to set goals and work to achieve them,” said Smith. “I have no doubt this has helped keep Matt on a course toward a successful future. It can do the same for other students.”

The Congressional Award is the United States Congress’ award for young Americans. It is non-partisan, voluntary, and non-competitive. The program is open to all youth regardless of ability, circumstance, or socioeconomic status. Participants earn Bronze, Silver, and Gold Certificates and Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medals. Each level involves setting goals in four program areas; Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness, and Expedition/Exploration. Any student, including those with special needs or disabilities willing to take the challenge, may earn the award. To find out more, contact Congressman Smith’s office at 202-225-4404.

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