

## Features



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# YOU Are Invited to the Dexter Chamber of Commerce 75th Birthday Celebration

OCTOBER 20TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

## YOU Are Invited to the Dexter Chamber of Commerce 75th Birthday Celebration

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter Chamber of Commerce invites you to celebrate their 75th birthday celebration on Thursday, October 24, 2019 from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m. at The Gathering.

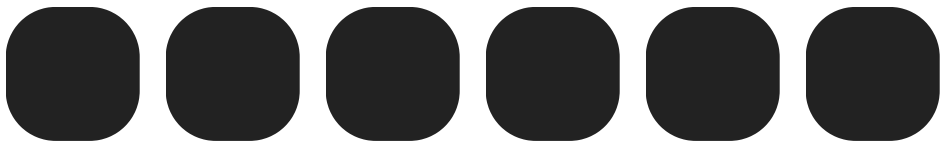
The public is encouraged to attend and check out the wonderful food vendors who will delight you with their wonderful foods! Hickory Log, Corner Cottage of Dexter, Missouri Harps Food Stores, Chilihead's Original Salsa, The Metro Gallery, and The Gathering will be on hand to help celebrate the 75th birthday!

Taste of the Town, Happy Hour, and Games!!! You won't want to miss out on a fun evening!

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<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vdb5/YOU-Are-Invited-to-the-Dexter-Chamber-of-Commerce-75th-Birthday-Celebration>

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## Central Gardens Celebrates 25th Anniversary with Ribbon Cutting

OCTOBER 01ST 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Central Gardens Celebrates 25th Anniversary with Ribbon Cutting

Dexter, Missouri - Central Gardens celebrated their 25th Anniversary in Dexter on Saturday, September 28, 2019.

They held a special dinner for the residents and their families as well as entertainment by Maggie Thorn Lowery and her father, Tony Thorn.

Throughout the day residents were greeted by the public and enjoyed afternoon music and dancing. There were bounce houses, lawn darts, and games for the children. It was a wonderful afternoon of fun!

A ribbon cutting was also held to celebrate their 25 years!

Pictured from left are: Janet Palmer, Chamber Director; Dexter Mayor Jason Banken; Sarah Miller, Central Gardens Administrator; Sue Hawkins, Housekeeping Supervisor; Kim Polen, Director of Nursing; Brenda Aguilar, CNA; C. H. Parson Jr.; Andrea Sisk, Dexter Chamber of Commerce and Mark Stidham, City Administrator

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## Cypress Point Collecting Birthday Cards for Eldon's 107th Birthday

SEPTEMBER 17TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Cypress Point Collecting Birthday Cards for Eldon's 107th Birthday](#)

Dexter, Missouri - David Eldon Stafford is a retired Postmaster and is turing a young age of 107 on October 12th. I had the pleasure of interviewing him on his 105th birthday! This year Cypress Point is hoping to receive as many cards/postcards from around the world that will fill a mail bag to give to him on his birthday.

They are asking to please share and pass this postcard along to help them with this project.

Mail to David Stafford, Cypress Point, 801 Bailiff Dr., Dexter, MO 63841

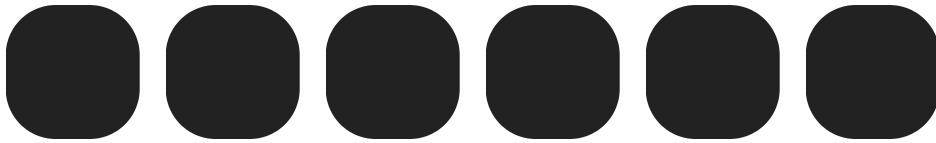
I wrote this article when Eldon turned 105!! Check it out

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/v8p4/Eldon-Stafford-Turns-105-Years-Old>

LAST UPDATED ON SEPTEMBER 17TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

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## Stoddard County Sheriff's Deputies Hold Active Shooter Drill

SEPTEMBER 11TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

### Stoddard County Sheriff's Deputies Hold Active Shooter Drill

Puxico, Missouri - On August 29, 2019, Stoddard County Sheriff's deputies, faculty and students of Mingo Job Corp, as well as agents of Missouri Fish and Wildlife participated in an active shooter drill at Mingo Job Corp.

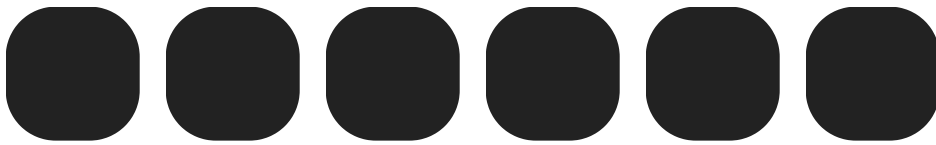
This drill will be done periodically at Mingo Job Corp to prepare students and faculty in the event of an active shooter situation.

Stoddard County Sheriff's Office has done several Active shooter trainings throughout the county at different schools and churches.

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<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/vd59/Stoddard-County-Sheriffs-Deputies-Hold-Active-Shooter-Drill>

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## Dennis Smelser Inducted Into The Missouri Bankers Association's 50 Year Club

JULY 30TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Dennis Smelser Inducted Into The Missouri Bankers Association's 50 Year Club](#)

### **Dennis Smelser Inducted Into The Missouri Bankers Association's 50 Year Club**

J. Dennis Smelser, executive vice president of Midwest Bancorporation Inc. in Poplar Bluff, was inducted into the Missouri Bankers Association's 50 Year Club on Thursday, June 13, during MBA's 129th Annual Convention at the Hilton Branson Convention

Center.

This recognition from MBA honors bankers who have dedicated 50 years of service to the banking community. Smelser is one of eight bankers who were inducted into the 50 Year Club this year.

Smelser began his banking career in 1969 in the bookkeeping department of Security Bank in

Paragould, Arkansas, while attending Arkansas State University. After graduation, Smelser served as manager of the customer service department and later as the bank's internal auditor.

In 1975, Smelser joined the audit department at Citizens Bank in Jonesboro, Arkansas, which led to an opportunity with his current employer. In 1976, Smelser moved to Dexter where he was employed as vice president and cashier of Dexter National Bank (later First Midwest Bank of Dexter). He transferred to the bank's parent company, Midwest Bancshares Inc. (later Midwest Bancorporation Inc.) in 1981. Dennis has served in several capacities throughout the last 38 years and currently serves as executive vice president and trustee of the company's employee stock ownership plan (ESOP).

A native of the Lafe community in Arkansas, Smelser is a graduate of Paragould High School, Arkansas State University (BS 1973), Southwestern Graduate School of Banking at SMU (1976) in Dallas, Texas, and Professional Master of Banking in Austin, Texas in 1997.

Mr. Smelser is a past member of the Paragould Exchange Club, Center Hill Jaycees, Paragould Parks and Recreation Board, Dexter Kiwanis Club, Dexter Zoning Commission, and the Dexter Airport Board. Dennis was also active in the First Baptist Church of Dexter for over 30 years.

Smelser married Janie Morrow of the Stanford community in Arkansas and they have two sons, Brian (deceased) and Shaun, and three grandchildren; Lillianne, Emmett, and Laurel. After living in Dexter, Missouri, for 40 years they recently moved to Jackson, Missouri, to be near their grandchildren. Smelser is the son of the late Faye Smelser Partlow of Paragould, Arkansas.

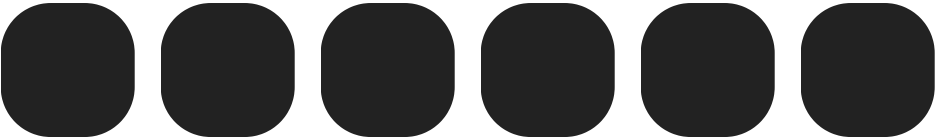
The Missouri Bankers Association is a statewide trade and professional organization in Jefferson City that represents the interests of more than 250 banks and savings and loans in Missouri. MBA serves as the principal advocate for the Missouri banking community and provides educational opportunities, products and services that assist bankers with

enhancing their banking operations.

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