#### **Local News**



## Animal Health Center Remains Open and Committed to Your Pet's Health

MARCH 19TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Animal Health Center Remains Open and Committed to Your Pet's Health

To our Valued Customers,

The health and well-being of your pet is our top priority. As news of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community continues to develop, we are monitoring the situation closely.

At this time, our clinic remains open and is operating under regular business hours.

While the CDC and other health authorities have indicated that dogs, cats, and other domestic animals are not considered at risk for contracting COVID-19, we are taking extra precautions to ensure the health and safety of humans within our facilities—notably our clients and staff. Keeping our practice "hospital-clean" has always been a priority for us, and we continue to do so. Additionally, for the safety of our team and your family we are monitoring CDC recommendations and will continue to increase our attention to cleaning frequency and methods accordingly. We are happy to provide options for hand cleaning for both clients and team members, and we work closely with our staff to ensure that anyone who is not feeling well understands that we support them staying home. To our customers:

If you are feeling ill or experiencing flu-like symptoms and have an upcoming wellness (not critical) appointment, we kindly ask that you call us to reschedule.

If you are healthy with no signs of illness, please bring your animal to our hospital and practice social distancing including no physical touching, appropriate hand washing and keeping 6-10 feet of distance from others in the clinic.

If your pet requires urgent care or has a medical emergency, and you are ill, please arrange for a trusted friend, neighbor, or healthy family member to transport your pet to our hospital. If you call ahead, we will gladly accommodate your representative and make appropriate arrangements.

If you do not have a trusted friend, neighbor, or healthy family member to transport your pet, please call 573-471-4500 when you arrive at our hospital and remain in your vehicle with your animal.

For more information and health guidance regarding COVID-19, please visit the CDC or WHO websites. For additional questions, please contact us at **ahcsikeston@gmail.com** or 573-471-4500 or to contact the Dexter office call (573) 624-5505.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation. We look forward to seeing you and your pet soon.

Your pet healthcare partners at Animal Health Center

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# Stoddard County Sheriff's Office Committed to Protecting Citizens

MARCH 19TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Stoddard County Sheriff's Office Committed to Protecting Citizens

Stoddard County, MIssouri - Stoddard county Sheriff Carl Hefner announced this press release due to the COV-19 (Coronavirus).

"Our office is committed to protecting and serving our citizens. At this time our Deputies will continue responding to ALL calls in a regular manner. If a Deputy is requested and someone in your home is experiencing symptoms consistent with flu or COVID-19, we ask that you let our dispatcher know prior to the arrival of first responders, stated Stoddard County Sheriff, Carl Hefner.

Our office will remain open Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm for all concealed carry permits and sex offender registration.

All jail visits will be suspended until further notice. Anyone who needs to place funds on an inmate commissary is encouraged to use the website:

https://orders.tigercommissary.com/services/ call toll free 877-844-3726, or visit the kiosk in the lobby.

Our office is staying up to date with information from the Centers for Disease Control, and Stoddard County Public Health Department. We will keep the public informed of any changes to our procedures. During these unprecedented and unknown times, the safety of the public and our staff is the highest priority. Our prayers are with all citizens affected by this epidemic and we ask for you to remember that God is in control. We thank you for your cooperation and patience during this time.

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### Harps Food Stores Acquires Stores in Arkansas and Missouri

MARCH 19TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Harps Food Stores Acquires Stores in Arkansas and Missouri

Springdale, AR - Harps Food Stores, Inc., has entered into a purchase agreement to acquire 20 stores across northeastern Arkansas and southeastern Missouri from Town & Country Grocers of Fredericktown, Missouri. The transaction remains subject to ordinary due diligence including approval from the Town and Country shareholders.

The locations are as follows:

Country Mart in Harrison, Arkansas

Town & Country in Highland, Arkansas

Town & Country in Thayer, Missouri

Cash Saver in West Plains, Missouri

Country Mart in Fredericktown, Missouri

Country Mart in Bonne Terre, Missouri

Country Mart in Potosi, Missouri

Country Mart in Park Hills, Missouri

ALPS Supermarket in Malden, Missouri

Town & Country in Newark, Arkansas

Price Chopper in Pocahontas, Arkansas

Country Mart in Kennett, Missouri

Town & Country in Dexter, Missouri

Country Mart in Jackson, Missouri

Country Mart in Piggott, Arkansas

Country Mart in Marble Hill, Missouri

Town & Country in Clarkton, Missouri

Town & Country in Doniphan, Missouri

Town & Country in Bernie, Missouri

Country Mart in Farmington, Missouri

While the timing of the transaction has not been finalized, both parties anticipate completing the transaction throughout this summer.

"Opportunities like this are rare," said Kim Eskew, president and CEO of Harps Food Stores. "We are extremely excited about adding these stores to our Harps family. They will make a great addition to our company as we strive to continue to grow."

Harps is a 100% employee-owned company, which operates 92 stores in four states, including Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas.

Harps is the largest employee-owned company in the state of Arkansas and was founded by Harvard and Floy Harp in Springdale in 1930. Since then, the company has grown to employ over 4,500 associates.

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## Dexter Police Department Modifies Protocols Due to COVID-19 Coronavirus

MARCH 19TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter Police Department Modifies Protocols Due to COVID-19 Coronavirus

In an effort to mitigate the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) The Dexter Police Department will be following modified protocols regarding to our calls for service. Dexter Police Department is committed to ensuring the safety of our citizens and businesses. We are not short staffed; we are still actively patrolling our community 24 hours a day with the same personnel as before. Some of our procedures have changed regarding how we handle certain calls for service to protect our staff and the public in general, but we are still here to serve and protect. All emergency calls will be responded to with officers.

Our officers will continue to respond to "in progress" calls and all emergency calls. All non-emergency and routine business calls will be handled over the telephone.

When a call for service warrants an officer's response, our Communications Unit will ask all callers a brief series of basic screening questions to safeguard against exposure to responding officers. The response to these answers will not exclude a caller from receiving services or from having an officer respond, they will only allow the officer the opportunity to take necessary safety precautions if necessary.

We also request that the general public refrain from traveling to the Dexter Police Department and instead, make every attempt to report any incident via telephone (573-624-5512, Ext 1).

These modified protocols are in place to protect our officers so they may continue to serve this community without interruption, and they are also in place to protect the public and effectively diminish the spread of COVID-19 throughout the community.

We greatly appreciate your understanding and your cooperation. We want our community to know we are actively evolving with this situation and we intend to remain unwavering in our dedication to serve and protect this community.

Any member of the community can contact the Dexter Police Department by phone, our website, Facebook, or email (during business hours).

Phone number 573-624-5512 Ext 1

Website: http://visitdexter.com/police/

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/dexterpolicedepartment

Email - Trevor.pulley@dexterpd.com

Chief of Police

**Trevor Pulley** 

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### American Red Cross Asking for Blood Donations

MARCH 19TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

#### American Red Cross Asking for Blood Donations

By now, you've seen the headlines and heard the news. Communities across the country are closely monitoring the outbreak of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and following public health preparedness guidance. Part of that preparation includes maintaining a readily available blood supply for hospital patients. The last thing patients should have to worry about during this time is a shortage.

As the number of COVD-19 cases grow, so does the need for healthy blood donors. Right now, the American Red Cross strongly urges eligible donors to schedule their next appointment to donate blood.

Here's the good news: Donating blood is a safe process and people should not hesitate to give or receive blood. If you are healthy and able, please come in to give. You can help change the headlines with a blood donation.

Saturday, March 21, 2020 Walmart in Sikeston, MO from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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