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Route Z in Stoddard County Closed for Bridge Replacement

JULY 21ST 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Route Z in Stoddard County Closed for Bridge Replacement

Route Z in Stoddard County Closed for Bridge Replacement

Route Z in Stoddard County will be closed as contractor crews replace the bridge over Drainage Ditch # 4.

This section of roadway is located between County Road 733 and County Road 741, near Bernie, Missouri.

Weather permitting, work will begin Monday, Aug. 3, with completion anticipated Wednesday, Sept. 16.

This bridge is included in Gov. Mike Parson's \$351 million Focus on Bridges program, which will repair or replace 250 bridges across the state.

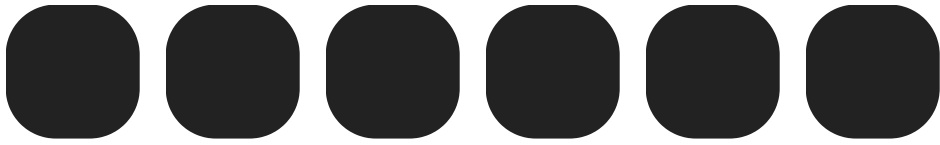
The work zone will be marked with signs. Motorists are urged to use extreme caution while traveling near the area.

For additional information, please contact Resident Engineer Donald Hills at

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The 2020 SEMO District Fair Has Been Cancelled

JULY 16TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

The 2020 SEMO District Fair Has Been Cancelled

The Southeast Missouri District Fair Board of Directors have made the difficult decision to cancel this year's SEMO District Fair, scheduled for September 12 through 19, 2020.

This decision does not come lightly to anyone involved. The SEMO District Fair touches many lives, vocations and has a significant economical impact in our area. Consideration for everyone from vendors to visitors, exhibitors to entertainers and beyond all comes into play. With all of these things considered and with no scientific solution to contain the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), we cannot, in good conscience, hold an event that would be detrimental to public health and place people in unsafe conditions.

To our exhibitors, especially those 4H and FFA youth who work so hard every year with their agricultural projects, we are sorry that we will not be able to provide a platform for you to shine this year. Most of us have grown up with that excitement building as September approached, and it truly saddens us that this year, we won't be there to see you become champions and grand champions and blue ribbon winners. We hope that you'll be with us next year as we return to the show ring.

The Fair Board is working on a plan to be able to continue with the livestock auction that typically follows all of our livestock exhibitions. Rest assured this will be done safely and in a fashion that not only provides a showcase of top quality livestock but also helps to balance the money and countless hours that are poured into each of your projects. More details will be forthcoming.

When we announced the musical entertainment line up for this year's SEMO District Fair, we got a lot of "wow" reactions. We were equally excited to see these artists come to town: Zach Williams, Blues Traveler and Whiskey Myers. While we would've loved to grab a bench in the grandstands and jam along with you, a concert, even outdoor, just doesn't make sense in the midst of a pandemic.

2020 marks 165 years of the SEMO District Fair. There have been years in the past where the fair has had to go on hiatus. The First World War. The Great Depression. And though the fair was missed in those times when it was canceled, the fair always returned. The SEMO District Fair has endured throughout 165 years of history. We appreciate the support and attendance of the people that come to enjoy the rides, food, exhibits, shows, and the vast amount of entertainment and information and family fun at the fair.

We are proud to have been a destination for generations of family entertainment and agricultural achievement, and we will return to continue that legacy when it makes sense to have a fair again, and we greatly hope that will be September 11 through 18, 2021. Thanks for your continued support and understanding.

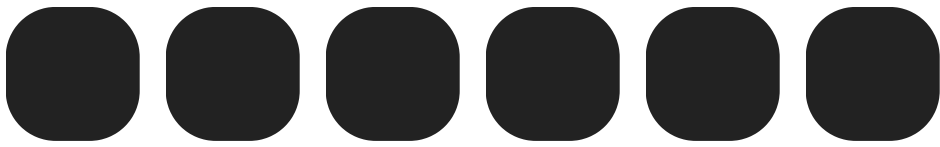
Please visit **www.semofair.com** and follow our social media for any new information regarding the livestock auction as it is made available.

Reposted from the SEMO District Fair Website. [Click HERE for more information.](#)

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Dexter PD K9 Officer Knox Receives Body Armor

JULY 16TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter PD K9 Officer Knox Receives Body Armor

Dexter Police Department's K9 Knox has received donation of body armor

Dexter Police Department's K9 Knox has received a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. K9 Knox's vest was sponsored by Breanna Arzenti of Pearls, Please? and embroidered with the sentiment "Honoring those who served and sacrificed".

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., established in 2009, is a 501(c)(3) charity whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. This potentially lifesaving body armor for four-legged K9 is U.S. made, custom fitted, and NIJ certified. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. has provided over 3,970 vests to K9s in all 50 states at a value of \$6.9 million, made possible by both private and corporate donations.

The program is open to U.S. dogs that are at least 20 months old, actively employed and certified with law enforcement or related agencies. K9s with expired vests are also eligible to participate. There are an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s throughout the United States.

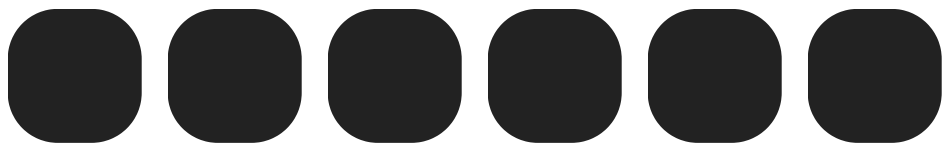
Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. accepts tax-deductible contributions in any amount, while a single donation of \$960 will sponsor one vest. Each vest has a value of \$1,744-\$2,283,

weighs an average of 4-5 lb., and comes with a five-year warranty. For more information, or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provides information, lists events, and accepts donations at www.vik9s.org, or you may mail your contribution to P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, MA 02718.

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Walmart Will Start Requiring all Customers to Wear Masks

JULY 15TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Walmart Will Start Requiring all Customers to Wear Masks

Walmart, the world's largest retailer, is the latest national chain to require all customers to wear masks. The change begins on Monday, July 20, 2020.

Starbucks said last week that it will require customers to wear facial coverings or masks in all 9,000 of its company-owned US stores beginning today.

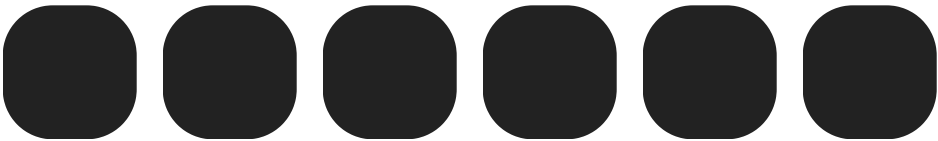
Best Buy announced Tuesday that it will also require all shoppers coming into its approximately 1,000 stores to wear face masks.

Although no federal mandate to wear a mask exists, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says everyone "should wear a cloth face cover when they have to go out in public." The CDC said "face coverings are meant to protect other people."

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Route H in Stoddard and Dunklin Counties Reduced for Pavement Repairs

JULY 13TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Route H in Stoddard and Dunklin Counties Reduced for Pavement Repairs

Route H in Stoddard and Dunklin Counties Reduced for Pavement Repairs

Route H in Stoddard and Dunklin Counties will be reduced to one lane with a 10-foot width restriction as contractor crews perform pavement repairs.

This section of roadway is located between Route 25 in Stoddard County and Route J in Dunklin County.

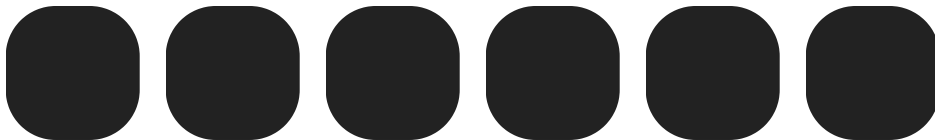
Weather permitting, work will take place Friday, July 10 through Friday, Aug. 14 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

The work zone will be marked with signs. Motorists are urged to use extreme caution while traveling near the area.

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