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Bloomfield Fall Festival Set for Saturday, October 17th

OCTOBER 16TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bloomfield Fall Festival Set for Saturday, October 17th

Bloomfield, MO - The Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce will host their annual Fall Festival from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Bloomfield City Park.

There will be lots of fun activities for the children to enjoy including mini putt putt golf, Knava's Bounce Houses, and face painting. There will also be cotton candy, sno cones, popcorn, ribbon taters, deep fried oreos, pickles, twinkie, poptarts and hamburger just to name a few of the wonderful foods available.

There will also be several vendors and handcrafted items available for sale.

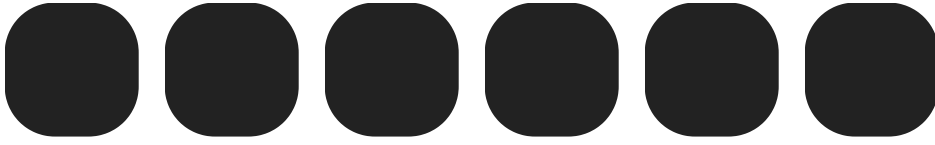
It's going to be a gorgeous Saturday so please come out and support these amazing crafters! It's a great time to get started on your Christmas shopping outdoors.

Masks are not required, but appreciated.

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Puxico PD to Host Benefit Concert for Annual Toy Drive

AUGUST 24TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Puxico PD to Host Benefit Concert for Annual Toy Drive

Puxico, MO - The Puxico Police Department will host a benefit featuring the John D. Hale Band on Saturday, October 10, 2020 at the Veterans Park in Puxico. Maggie Thorn will be the opening act at 7:00 p.m. The proceeds from the concert will go to the Puxico PD's Annual Christmas Toy Drive.

Tickets are \$15.00 per person prior to the concert and \$20 at the gate the night of the concert. Gates open at 6 p.m. Concert begins at 7 p.m.

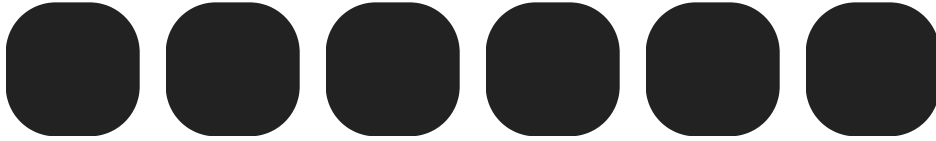
No alcoholic beverages are allowed and no outside food or drink can be brought into the venue.

The event is sponsored by: Ozark Federal Credit Union of Poplar Bluff, Mo. , The Camp at Lake Wappapello, Tool Shed Saloon, Duck Creek Landing , and Don's Restaurant and Lounge

[To purchase tickets click HERE.](#)

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Norman Harty Estate Leaves Over \$8.4 Million to Shriners Hospital

JULY 16TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Norman Harty Estate Leaves Over \$8.4 Million to Shriners Hospital

Shriners Hospitals for Children - St. Louis received a total of over \$8.4 million from the estate of well-known Southeast Missouri businessman and philanthropist Norman Harty.

A resident of Dexter, Missouri, Harty, who passed away in 2017, was supportive of his community and dedicated much time and effort to the Three Rivers Shrine Club and supporting Shriners Hospitals for Children. As the former president of First Commercial Bank, Harty owned 10 branches across Southeast Missouri. He also founded N.B. Harty Contractors.

Harty's generous gifts will help support world-class orthopaedic healthcare for children, regardless of their family's ability to pay.

"Thanks to the generosity of donors like Mr. Harty, our hospital can provided care to help children beyond the limits of their insurance and ensure confidence they are receiving the best care possible," said Chief of Staff Scott Luhmann, M.D.

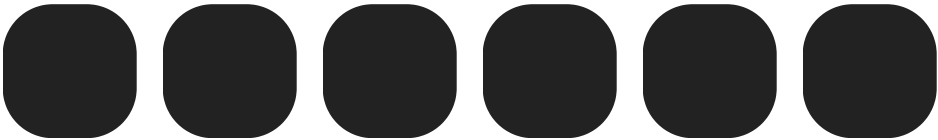
Norman graduated from Puxico High School in 1954 and later attended Southeast Missouri State University and Williams Baptist College, eventually earning a degree from Arkansas University.

Mr. Harty proudly served in the U.S. Army. He attended the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Dexter.

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Bernie High School Class of 2020 Holds Traditional Graduation Ceremony

JUNE 08TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bernie High School Class of 2020 Holds Traditional Graduation Ceremony

Bernie, MO - The Bernie High School Class of 2020 wanted a traditional graduation to end their high school career. Thirty-five students received their diplomas on Saturday, June 6, 2020. The ceremony was postponed due to COVID-19; however the gathering of family and friends was much smaller in the gym and the students were separated to be in compliance with social distancing.

Cassidy Freed lead the audience and students in the Pledge of Allegiance to open the graduation ceremony.

2020 Class president Taylor Anthony welcomed everyone to the ceremony. She thanked her teachers. "You all made us who we are and made sure to support us in anything we wanted to accomplish. I learned more the past four years than I ever thought I would."

Salutatorian Kaylie Holt received a very special award from High School Principal Brad Botsch during the ceremony. She was the only member of the class to qualify for the honors banquet every year of eligibility from 4th grade to her senior year. Though the class of 2020 did not get an Honor's Banquet this year students were recognized during the ceremony. Those recognized were Shyann Charles, Hannah Cupp, Cassidy Freed, Blake Harty, Nathan Harvey, Kaylie Holt, Kelsey Spitzer, and Emilie Vincent.

Holt was involved Future Business Leaders of America, FCCLA, Sr. Beta Club, Explore Club, Choir, and Pep Club. She was also awarded the President's Award for Academic Excellence.

"My classmates and I have all experienced many different things in our lives, but there are some things that we can all related to, like when someone parked in your unofficially assigned parking spot," commented Holt. Several of the students laughed with her.

She went on to say that BHS has provided all of the students with great opportunities and had helped prepare them for success in the future. "You only live once,"

"So do what makes you happy and don't be afraid to take some chances. But most importantly live life like there is no tomorrow because you never really know if there is

one."

Sidney Cobb fought back tears as she addressed her classmates while giving her valedictorian speech. "She is a very accomplished young lady", stated Brad Botsch, Bernie High School principal. She has been involved in Future Business Leaders of America, Scholar Bowl, Pep Club, and Explore Club. She is the 2020 Student Council President, the Senior Class Vice President, and the Sr. Beta Club Vice President.

"Uncertain is the only way to describe the last few months of our high school career," stated Cobb. "COVID-19 ripped away many of the moments. We did not get to experience our senior trip, our senior faculty games, our senior prom, or our last few days together. For a lack of better words, that sucks."

In conclusion Cobb stated, "To the Bernie High School Class of 2020, I cannot even begin to describe how happy I am to know you. I have become so close with so many of you and for that, I am truly grateful. I love you all and I wish you the absolute best in your future. Stay safe and do the amazing things I know you are all capable of doing!"

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Peaceful Protest Held in Dexter

JUNE 08TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Peaceful Protest Held in Dexter

Dexter, MO - Concerned citizens gathered at West Park in Dexter on Sunday, June 7, 2020 to participate in a peaceful protest joining millions across the world in response to the death of George Floyd of Minneapolis.

The Dexter residents in prayer along side of Dexter police officers at the beginning of the event. The group then lined the sidewalk facing Business 60. They held signs and raised their fist in honor of Floyd.

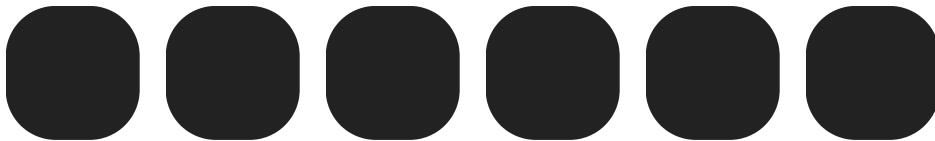
Four police officers have been arrested and charged in connection with Floyd's death.

Photo provided.

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