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Bloomfield Veterans Cemetery Dedicates Road In Honor of Jack Matthews

NOVEMBER 19TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bloomfield Veterans Cemetery Dedicates Road In Honor of Jack Matthews

Bloomfield, MO - On Veterans Day, the Bloomfield Assistance League along with Jack Matthew's family gathered to dedicate a road in his honor. Matthews is a World War II Veteran and was the driving force in efforts to bring the Missouri Veterans Cemetery to Stoddard County.

A road on the north side of the property now bares his name as does a plaque at the front door of the administration building.

Mr. Matthews worked diligently beside Jerry Elder, Frank Sifford, and Ray Coats to acquire land to donate to the state. He made numerous trips to Jefferson City to meet with officials to get the site at Bloomfield.

The ceremony was small due to COVID-19. Col. Ed Gargas began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

US Army Sergeant Blair Moran, president of the Bloomfield Assistance League spoke, "We have gathered here this morning on a very special Veterans Day to honor a very special veteran. Mr Jack Matthews is the reason we are assembled here today at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery because of his outstanding work that he did in making this site a reality."

"All of us assembled here today as baby boomers owe a great deal of gratitude to both Jack and Pauline (his wife) and their generation who sacrificed so much," continued Moran. "That allowed all of us as baby boomers to grow up in a country, free of tyranny that Jack helped defeat while wearing the uniform of our nation."

Matthews did not stop with just forming the Bloomfield Veterans Cemetery, he dedicated his entire adult life to helping veterans. He created a foundation that helps fund programs that assist Missouri State Veterans. He worked through the Dept of Labor on veterans employment and served on the Missouri Veterans Commission for eight years.

Mr. Matthews was unable to attend the ceremony due to health reason, but his wife Pauline and son, retired Army Col. Larry Matthews, were in attendance.

Col. Matthews was presented a plaque from the Missouri Legislature and an appreciation flag from the Bloomfield Assistance League.

He also spoke to the crowd, "I have always told people that the journey is more important than the destination and even though this is a destination, dad fought a hard journey to get us where we are today."

"When dad started this journey, he decided he wanted to try and give something back to the community. There were two cities that wanted this cemetery real bad. One was Cape Girardeau and the other was Poplar Bluff. He worked closely with the Stoddard County Commission and when they donated the land it all fell into place."

Matthews was a WWII veteran and joined at the age of 17. He was sworn into the Army at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis and went to basic training at Camp Robinson in North Little Rock, Arkansas. He then shipped out on a train to Boston and took a troop transport to Glasgow, Scotland. From there, he took a ship across the English Channel into France. He returned two years later and finished high school.

"When you think about what you were doing as a junior in high school," said Matthews, "You probably didn't see the carnage that those young men saw during WWII."

Col. Matthews extended his thanks on behalf of his family, stating that the Bloomfield Cemetery had no better friend than Jack Matthews.

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Xtreme Body Spa Holds Ribbon Cutting

OCTOBER 15TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Xtreme Body Spa Holds Ribbon Cutting

Dexter, MO - Xtreme Body spa and Family Hair Salon had their relocation ribbon cutting on Friday, December 9, 2020. Lisa Tucker owner/operator is excited to make available new services.

Xtreme Body Spa is locally owned and is located at 202 E. Business Hwy 60 in Dexter. They offer haircuts, colors, perms, eyebrow waxing, teeth whitening, tanning and have various toning tables available.

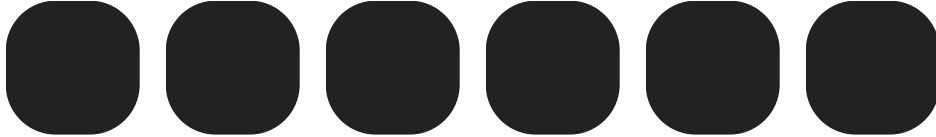
They are open Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Call 573.624.1242 for an appointment.

Pictured left to right are Dexter Mayor Jason Banken, Tom Tucker, Lisa Tucker, Patty Sisk, Natalie Robison, Charlotte Vandiver, Executive Director of the Dexter Chamber of Commerce Alisha Trammell and Dustin Mayer.

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The Lair Event Center Holds Ribbon Cutting

OCTOBER 15TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

[The Lair Event Center Holds Ribbon Cutting](#)

Dexter, MO - The Lair Event Center located at 13583 Highway 25 in Dexter held a ribbon cutting.

Susan Kimball is the Owner and Brandy Kearbey is the Event Director.

You can contact them at 573.793.6591 (Susan) or 573.718.1195 (Brandy) or email them at thelaireeventcenter@yahoo.com

The Lair Event Center will be hosting several upcoming events including a Trunk or Treat, Midget Wrestling, and a Parents Night Out!

Pictured in front from left are Dexter Mayor Jason Banken, owner Susan Kimball, Event Director Brandy Kearbey, Johnna Sprouse, Amanda Holiman, Carol Kimball, Rebecca Fields, Florence Johnson, Lanie Wilkerson, Susan Lee, Dexter Chamber Director Sue Ann Williams, Dexter Chamber Director Mark Whitehead and Dexter Chamber Executive

Director Alisha Trammell .

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Family Matters Adult Dayhab Holds Ribbon Cutting

OCTOBER 15TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Family Matters Adult Dayhab Holds Ribbon Cutting

Dexter, MO - Family Matters Adult Dayhab held a ribbon cutting celebrating their grand opening located at 13583 Highway 25 in Dexter.

Brandy Kearbey is the director and she says she has several events planned throughout the year.

She is currently building their Behavior Buck Store. If you would like to donate items please give her a call at 573-718-1195. She is there from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday -

Friday.

"We teach accountability for ourselves, how to save for things we would like and not instant gratification."

A consumer will be running the store to put in place job skills training.

They have already had a cooking class, apron making class and several other fun activities.

Pictured front row from left are Dexter Mayor Jason Banken, Cindy Decker, Lauren Blaign, Sikeston Dayhab Director Susan Kimball, Dexter Director Brandy Kearbey, Johnna Sprouse, Amanda Holiman, Carol Kimball, Rebecca Fields, Florence Johnson, Lanie Wilkerson, Susan Lee, Dexter Chamber Executive Director Alisha Trammell, Dexter Chamber Director Sue Ann Williams and Dexter Chamber Director Mark Whitehead.

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Cottonwood Early Learning Academy Ribbon Cutting

OCTOBER 06TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Cottonwood Early Learning Academy Ribbon Cutting

Dexter, MO - The Dexter Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for Cottonwood Early Learning Academy, LLC on Friday, September 25, 2020.

The Cottonwood Early Learning Academy is located at 1017 Arvin Road. Phone number is (573) 421-3025.

Pictured from left to right are Dexter Mayor Jason Banken, Tara Barker, Bank of Advance, Lea Jenkins, Southern Bank, Bonnie Cooper, Tommy Stafford, owner, Davina Stafford, Krista Stafford, Lisa Britton, Kevin Britton, Sara Selvidge, Dexter City Administrator Mark Stidham, Dexter Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Alisha Trammell, and Cecil Haley of Southern Bank.

[Follow Cottonwood Early Learning Academy on Facebook by clicking HERE.](#)

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