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10th Annual Hope International Back-to-School Bash a Success

AUGUST 02ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

10th Annual Hope International Back-to-School Bash a Success

Dexter, Missouri - More than 800 children of all ages were delighted to receive free backpacks full of school supplies from Hope International at their 10th annual Back-to-School Bash at the Bearcat Event Center on Tuesday.

Students were able to get haircuts, dental exams, hearing tests, and eye exams all for free donated by the many businesses in the community. They also had fun in the giant bounce houses set up on one basketball court. There was face painting, balloon animals, lots of free candy and information from various groups and organizations. Students and families were also treated to free popcorn, hotdogs, chips, and soda. Kiger Electric grilled more than 1,300 hotdogs at last count for the event.

What an amazing community effort for our students. It was also good experience for high school students who volunteered to work at many of the booths.

Students came from all over Stoddard County and a few surrounding towns such as Malden, Kennett and Senath. It was a great day and a lot of smiling faces.

This was NOT a low-income only opportunity. They wanted everyone with children to benefit from this event. Getting a child ready to go back to school can be very stressful and hard on a family. They want to make the Back 2 School process a fun and enjoyable day for everyone and it was!

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Fishing Classes at Keller Public Library

JULY 29TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Fishing Classes at Keller Public Library

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Dexter, Missouri - Keller Public Library is offering Fishing Classes sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation on four Saturdays in September.

Classes are for youth ages 7 to 15 years and class size is limited to 20 participants. Pre-registration is required and there is no charge of the classes.

Children who complete all four classes will receive a \$25 Bass Pro Gift Card and each child must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Classes each Saturday are two

hours long.

Saturday, September 9th from 10:00 a.m. - noon students will attend Lesson 1: Equipment, Casting, and Proper Fish Handling.

Saturday, September 16th from 10:00 a.m. - noon students will attend Lesson 2: How to Tie a Knot and Bait a Hook.

Saturday, September 23rd from 10:00 a.m. - noon students will attend Lesson 3: Five Common Missouri Fish - Their Anatomy, Habitat, and Life Cycle

Saturday, September 30th from 10:00 a.m. - noon students will attend Lesson 4: Fishing with Lures and Fishing Regulations.

Each class will be held in the Keller Public Library Community Room. Please call (573) 624-3764 to pre-register for each class.

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Back the Blue Fish Fry Fundraiser

JULY 29TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Back the Blue Fish Fry Fundraiser

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Dexter, Missouri - On Saturday, July 29, 2017 the Dexter VFW Post 2659 will host a "Back the Blue" Fish Fry.

"These men and women serve on a front line as we have," commented Commander of the VFW Robert Myers. "They do not know who is friendly and who is foe until the conflict arises. It maybe from what appears to be a simple traffic stop quickly escalated in force, or to a domestic disturbance upon arrival walking into a hail of gun fire."

Join them from Noon to 6:00 p.m. and support your local law enforcement.

All proceeds will go to the Dexter Police Department. Other fundraisers are in the planning stages for EMS and Fire.

Cost of the meal is \$7.00 with children 12 and under free. You will be served delicious fried catfish, hush puppies, cole slaw, french fries and a drink.

The new FVW Canteen is located at 23 North Locust Street in Dexter.

There will also be games for the kids and adults, an 8 ball tournament, dart tournament, basketball shooting for kids, corn hole events and 50/50 as well.

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Back the Blue Fish Fry Sponsored by Dexter

Back the Blue Fish Fry Sponsored by Dexter VFW

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Jill Gibbs Honored as Hometown Hero

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Bloomfield, Missouri - Jill Gibbs, longtime volunteer and resident of Bloomfield was recently honored with Hometown Hero Awards at Bloomfield School softball/baseball field.

Jill has volunteered for several years helping the community running the concession stand at the little league baseball and softball games at Bloomfield City Park. Even after her son has graduated from high school she continued to show up in the heat and gets everything ready so the parents and family have something cold to drink and a snack as they watch their little leaguers play on the field.

The award is provided by Modern Woodman and a \$50 donation will be given to a charity of the recipient's choice. Mrs. Gibbs has chosen Claus for a Cause as her charity.

Modern Woodman, Fraternal organization is dedicated to improving the quality of life for its members and appreciate her contribution to the community



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Shown in the photo are Jill Gibbs and Lara Thorn, presenting the award and all of her many fans!

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