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Akers Ferry Expected to be Closed until Mid-June

MARCH 28TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Van Buren, MO – Akers Ferry, located at Akers on the upper Current River, is expected to be closed until mid-June. Akers Ferry provides a Current River crossing on State Route K in northern Shannon County. Recent flooding in the area resulted in a substantial deposit of gravel in the river channel, preventing the ferry from crossing the Current River. Due to fish spawning season, the National Park Service is prohibited from removing gravel from the river from March 15 to June 15. Gravel removal will be completed as soon as possible after June 15.

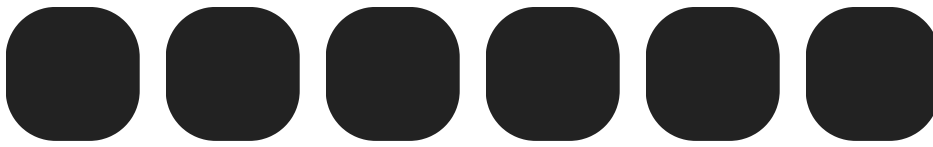
For more information about the Riverways, call (573) 323-4236; visit the park's Facebook page.

Ozark National Scenic Riverways preserves the free-flowing Current and Jacks Fork Rivers, the surrounding resources, and the unique cultural heritage of the Ozark people.

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Elks Lodge to Host Blood Drive

MARCH 27TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Elks Lodge to Host Blood Drive

Dexter, Missouri - The Dexter Elks Lodge will host a Blood Drive on Monday, April 2, 2018 from 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

The Dexter Elks Lodge is located at 325 North 2 Mile Road.

The American Red Cross is urging all eligible donors to make an appointment to give blood or platelets this summer. While the need for blood and platelets remains constant throughout the summer, the Red Cross experiences a drastic decline in new donors, and current donors often delay giving due to summer vacation plans. Last summer, nearly one-third fewer new blood donors came out to give than during the rest of the year. Many schools where blood drives are held and where new donors give are out of session during the summer months.

Blood and platelet donations often do not keep pace with hospital demand during the summer months, but every day there are thousands of lives to help save. Right now, blood and platelet donations are being distributed to hospitals faster than donations are coming in.

*Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.

*The Red Cross must collect nearly 14,000 blood donations every day to meet the needs of patients at approximately 2,600 hospitals across the country.

Eligible donors of all blood types are needed to make a donation appointment now and help sustain a sufficient community blood supply.

*Donating blood is a relatively safe and easy process, and only takes about an hour.

*Scheduling an appointment is easy and fast through the Blood Donor App, online at redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

*Donors of all blood types are needed to help save lives.

Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

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Saint Francis Adds to Emergency Department

MARCH 27TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Saint Francis Adds to Emergency Department

Cape Girardeau, Missouri - Saint Francis Medical Center welcomes emergency medicine specialists Charles Dodson, DO, FACEP, and Martin Blake, MD, as new providers in the Emergency Department. They join 11 other emergency providers in Saint Francis' Emergency and Trauma center, the region's only state-designated Level III Trauma Center.

Dr. Dodson comes to Saint Francis from Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper, Indiana. He earned his medical degree from Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed his emergency medicine residency at Brooke Amery Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Blake, who previously worked as an attending physician in the emergency department at Greenville Health System in Greenville, South Carolina, earned his medical degree from Ross University School of Medicine in Portsmouth, Dominica, and completed his emergency residency at Louisiana State University Health in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

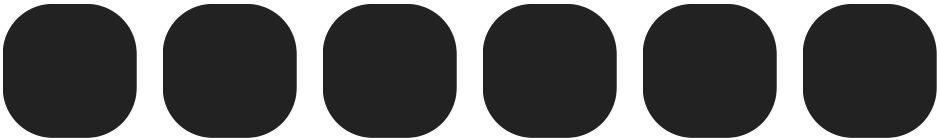
Saint Francis Medical Center is a 308-bed facility serving more than 713,000 people throughout Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas. Guided by its mission to provide a ministry of healing and wellness inspired by its Christian philosophy and values, the Medical Center has become a progressive, innovative regional tertiary care referral center. Saint Francis' major service lines, which have received national

recognition, include the Neurosciences Institute; Orthopedic Institute; Family BirthPlace, featuring the region’s first Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit; Heart Hospital; Emergency and Level III Trauma Center; Cancer Institute; and Fitness Plus.

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Route FF in Stoddard County Reduced For Partial Overlay

MARCH 27TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Route FF in Stoddard County Reduced For Partial Overlay

Route FF in Stoddard County Reduced For Partial Overlay

Route FF in Stoddard County will be reduced to one lane as Missouri Department of Transportation crews partially overlay the roadway.

The section of roadway is located from Route E to Route 114.

Weather permitting, work will be performed Tuesday, April 3 through Wednesday, April 4 from 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.

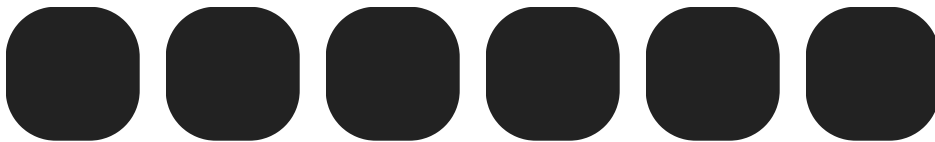
The work zone will be marked with signs. Motorists are urged to use extreme caution while traveling near the area.

For additional information, contact MoDOT's Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK-MODOT

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Route KK in Stoddard County Reduced For Partial Overlay

MARCH 27TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Route KK in Stoddard County Reduced For Partial Overlay

[Route KK in Stoddard County Reduced For Partial Overlay](#)

WILLOW SPRINGS - Route KK in Stoddard County will be reduced to one lane as Missouri Department of Transportation crews partially overlay the roadway.

The section of roadway is located from Route 114 to the end of state maintenance.

Weather permitting, work will be performed Wednesday, April 4 through Thursday, April 5 from 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.

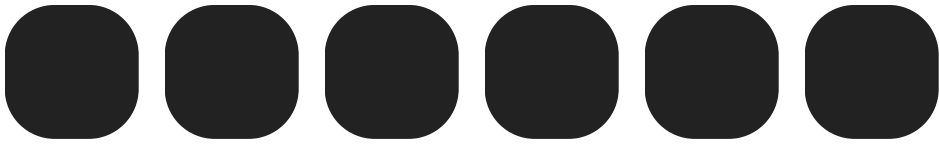
The work zone will be marked with signs. Motorists are urged to use extreme caution while traveling near the area.

For additional information, contact MoDOT's Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK-MODOT

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