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Governor Parson Appoints Mark Stidham to Missouri 911 Service Board

JUNE 15TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Governor Parson Appoints Mark Stidham to Missouri 911 Service Board

Jefferson City, MO - Governor Mike Parson appointed Mark Stidham of Dexter to the Missouri 911 Service Board.

Mr. Stidham has served the City of Dexter since 1997. In his role as City Administrator, he oversees the Police, Fire, Street, Water, Waste Water, Sanitation, and Parks and Recreation Departments. He also advises the Airport and Library Boards. Previously, he served four years on the Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Stidham has also served on several other state and local organizations, including the Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee, the Missouri Municipal League, the Transportation Advisory Council, the City Managers Association, the Blue Ribbon Citizens Committee on Missouri Transportation Needs, and the Endowment Trust for Three Rivers College.

Mr. Stidham received a formal education in forestry and industrial relations from the National Hardwood Lumber Association in Memphis, Tennessee.

"It's a real privilege to serve on the 911 Service Board," commented Stidham. "I want to help ensure that all Missourians have access to 911 services. There are still many rural areas that do not have adequate service. We are quite fortunate in Stoddard County to have the equipment and ability to offer 911 service."

The 911 Service Board only meets four times per year, but there are committees that may meet more often. This isn't a paid position, but a worthwhile service to the community.

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Bernie Parents as Teachers' June 2020 Student of the Month

JUNE 05TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Bernie Parents as Teachers' June 2020 Student of the Month

Bernie, MO - Isabella Kaye Siebert is the Bernie Parents as Teachers' June 2020 Student of the Month.

She is the one-year old daughter of Laura Counts and Steven Siebert.

Isabella enjoys playing chase with her mommy, building blocks, helping out with laundry, and singing and dancing.

She also loves playing outside with her friends and throwing balls for the dogs. During the family's PAT visits, Isabella enjoys playing games and reading the new books with her mom and Mrs. Courtney, the family's parent educator.

The following information was taken directly from the Parent as Teachers Missouri website.

Our Vision

All children will learn, grow and develop to realize their full potential.

Our Mission

To provide the information, support and encouragement parents need to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life.

Our Values

The early years of a child's life are critical for optimal development and provide the foundation for success in school and in life.

Parents are their children's first and most influential teachers.

Established and emerging research should be the foundation of parent education and family support curricula, training, materials and services.

All young children and their families deserve the same opportunities to succeed, regardless of any demographic, geographic or economic considerations.

An understanding and appreciation of the history and traditions of diverse cultures is essential in serving families.

History

In 1981, Missouri pioneered the concept of helping parents embrace their important role as their child's first and best teacher. Today, Parents as Teachers continues to equip early

childhood organizations and professionals with information and tools that are relevant? and widely applicable?to today's parents, families and children.

The Parents as Teachers leadership team and Board of Directors is engaged in a three-year strategic plan, which positions the organization as a valued partner to support the organizations and professionals who serve families and children, especially those most vulnerable.

The concept for Parents as Teachers was developed in the 1970s when Missouri educators noted that children were beginning kindergarten with varying levels of school readiness. Research showed that greater parent involvement is a critical link in the child's development of learning skills, including reading and writing.

Early childhood professionals suggested that a program to provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues, and parent education to help parents understand their role in encouraging their child's development from the beginning could help improve school readiness and parent involvement.

With funding from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and The Danforth Foundation, Parents as Teachers began in 1981 in Missouri as a pilot project for first-time parents of newborns. Recognizing the program's benefits and cost effectiveness, the Missouri legislature provided state funding in 1985 to implement Parents as Teachers programs in all Missouri school districts. Since 1985, Parents as Teachers has expanded to all 50 states and six other countries.

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Graduate Fulfills 30-Year Dream with Southeast Degree

MAY 29TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Graduate Fulfills 30-Year Dream with Southeast Degree

Achieving a college degree has been a goal of Amber Hornbeck for nearly 30 years.

She graduated this month from Southeast Missouri State University with a Bachelor of General Studies.

"I remain hopeful about the future and grateful to have had the opportunity to complete a degree program at a University so close to home," she said.

Amber celebrated graduating from Southeast with her son Cooper; brother-in-law, Larry Duncan; and her sister Janice Duncan.

After earning an Associate of Arts in middle school education from Three Rivers College in Poplar Bluff in 2018, Hornbeck decided to complete her higher education journey with classes at Southeast's Poplar Bluff delivery site.

Being able to earn her degree in her hometown of Poplar Bluff allowed her to continue her work as a news clerk at the Daily American Republic while also fulfilling her responsibilities as a single mother to her 16-year-old son, Cooper.

"I wanted to lead by example to show him that anything is possible if you simply dedicate yourself and maintain focus on your goals," she said.

The support she received from her professors and advisors was instrumental.

Amber decorated her Southeast mortarboard with an image of her parents, in honor of her promise to them to earn her four-year degree.

"A sincere and heartfelt thank you to all my fellow Redhawks, instructors and staff who played a role in guiding me through my degree program," she said.

The help she received from Pauletta Burns, coordinator of academic and student services at Southeast's Poplar Bluff Delivery Site, guided her towards success both personally and academically.

"Had it not been for the due diligent advising of Pauletta, I would have abandoned my dreams" after several academic and financial challenges, Hornbeck said. "She is the consummate encourager and champion to all those she counsels."

As she contemplates the future, Hornbeck hopes to be an example for and help advise other non-traditional students navigate their return to college.

"Graduation with a college degree was the fulfillment of a promise I had made years earlier to my late parents — their image adorns my Southeast mortarboard," she said. "I am proud to call myself a Southeast alumna!"

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Memorial Day Ceremony Cancelled at MO State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield

MAY 15TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Memorial Day Ceremony Cancelled at MO State Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield

Memorial Day Public Ceremonies cancelled at all five Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries due to COVID-19 concerns

For the first time in the history of Memorial Day ceremonies at Bloomfield the annual event has been cancelled.

Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries continue to follow CDC and National Cemetery Administration cautionary guidelines on large gatherings of 10 or more individuals.

On Memorial Day, May 25, 2020, Missouri State Veterans Cemetery Directors will render appropriate honors and lower all flags to half-staff to honor all Veterans interred in Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries at all five State Veteran Cemeteries. Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries are located at Bloomfield, Higginsville, Jacksonville, Springfield, and Ft. Leonard Wood. To further honor our Veterans and include citizens who will not be able to attend our ceremonies due to the current emergency, the Missouri Veterans Commission will provide a video honoring our Veterans on its social media platforms in lieu of the traditional in-person ceremony.

Originally called Decoration Day, Memorial Day was established as a day for Americans to honor those who were killed during the Civil War. It was not until after World War I that Memorial Day was expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. Memorial Day was declared a national holiday in 1971 and was placed on the last Monday in May.

WHAT: Missouri State Veterans Cemetery Memorial Day Ceremony

WHO: Jim Nugent, Director - Missouri State Veterans Cemetery Program

WHERE: Missouri State Veterans Cemeteries Bloomfield, Higginsville, Jacksonville, Springfield, Ft. Leonard Wood

WHEN: Memorial Day - Monday, May 25, 2020

For more information contact

Jim Nugent

660-295-4237

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Bloomfield Chamber to Host Farmers Market Each Tuesday

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Farmers Market sponsored by the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce will be held each Tuesday from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. at the Elderland Restaurant Parking Lot located at 102 MO Hwy 25.

Season Booth/Vendor Fee \$25; Single Day Booth/Vendor Fee \$5

Baked good, vegetables, jams and jellies, handmade craft items, fruits, eggs, herbs, small livestock such as chickens, ducks, rabbits and so much more!

Text or Call Amy Haas, Chamber President at 573.421.2934 to reserve your spot and for questions.

ShowMe Times will be LIVE! Please come out and support your local businesses for great home-grown market items.

If you see an Event Page please be sure to invite your friends!!

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