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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 provide 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 tip, our senior faculty games, our senior prom, or our last few days together. For a lack of better words, that sucks."

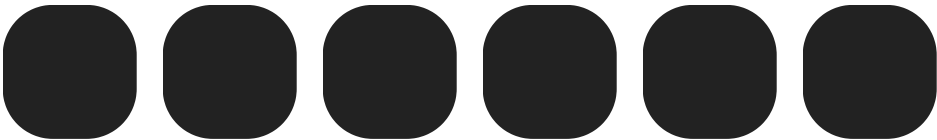
In conclusion Cobb stated, "To the Bernie High School Class of 2020, I cannot even begin to describe how happy I am to know you. I have become so close with so many of you

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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Grand Re-Opening Celebration Set for Saturday at the National Stars & Stripes Museum

JUNE 05TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Grand Re-Opening Celebration Set for Saturday at the National Stars & Stripes Museum

Bloomfield, MO - There will be a grand re-opening celebration at the National Stars and Stripes Museum/Library in Bloomfield on Saturday, June 6, 2020 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

There will be WWII reenactors, a swap meet, special food vendors, Tasty Snow Crab food truck, The German Cook, and Frozen Italian Ice food truck.

The National Stars and Stripes Museum/Library would also like to announce the new gift shop items for sale. There are new t-shirts, hats, and coffee mugs. The new 2020 collection is available in four colors.

They will also continue to sell the original historical replicas of the Declaration of Independence and The Constitution along with a printed copy of the first Stars and Stripes newspaper.

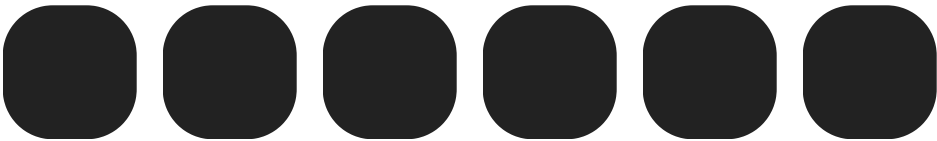
They have hand-painted magnets and made to order Christmas ornaments, hand-turned pens, acrylic cups, earrings and other items from our local artists. They even plan to feature a local artist each month with new and different types of items for sale.

Visit the National Stars and Stripes Museum and Library for a free tour and visit the gift shop. Proceeds go to continue the museum further existence and a great reminder of how history was made in Bloomfield!

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Dexter Chamber of Commerce Farmers' Market Held Each Thursday

MAY 18TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter Chamber of Commerce Farmers' Market Held Each Thursday

Dexter, MO - The Dexter Chamber of Commerce Farmers' Market will be held each Thursday from 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Several vendors have already signed up to participate.

The location has moved this year and will be held at 19 N. Elm in downtown Dexter. This is the parking lot located in between the streets of N. Elm and S. Locust.

Below are a few changes the Chamber will be implementing due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Vendors will be spaced out.

Please practice socially spacing by keeping a distance of 6+ feet from other customers and vendors.

Please shop with your eyes, not your hands.

Wash all produce thoroughly before using it.

If you are sick, please stay home and ask a friend or family member to pick things up for you at Dexter Farmer's Market instead.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

If you need to sneeze or cough, sneeze or cough into a tissue or into the crease of your elbow.

The Chamber encourages all vendors and customers to wear masks, per the recommendation of the CDC.

Would you like to be a vendor? Contact the Dexter Chamber of Commerce...573-624-7458

A list of vendors who have already signed up are:

Lynn & Racheal's Creations- artwork, plants, canned goods

Linda's Face masks- homemade face masks

Iris Rose Farm- Wooden barn quilts, antique barn wood crafts and signs, baked goods

Julie's Cookies & Treats- cookies

Bader Woodshed- homemade wooden items

Phyllis Menley- cookies

Emily's Jams & Jellies- jams, jellies, fruit butters, pecans, vegetables, plants

Peanut & Company Crafters- custom epoxied tumblers, handcrafted air fresheners, bracelets, key chains, chap stick holders, ring dishes

Lacey Wood- eggs, jewelry, coasters

Charlotte's Jewelry & Things- homemade jewelry and canned goods

Henry's Plants- plants, flowers

Col Ambush Handmade Jewelry- polished gems, jewelry, medicine bags, vegetables

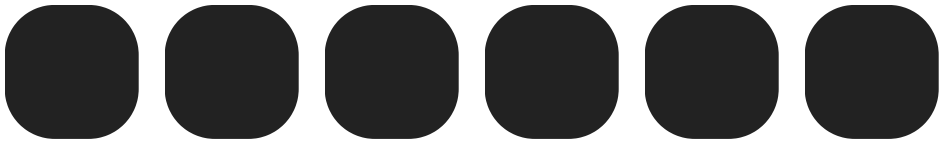
Lady V's- homemade pork rinds

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