

CHASE

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house Police Chief Jackie Hays, at 8:15 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, Hays received a call advising Mattison was driving up and down Levee Road in a gray passenger car with a 14-year-old female.

Hays had had previous dealings with Mattison and was aware he was a registered sex offender, currently on probation with a special condition of no contact with any non-related females under the age of 16.

According to the probable cause statement, Hays located a vehicle that matched the description of the Mattison vehicle. He said he saw a 14-year-old passenger in Mattison's vehicle who was not related to him. Hays pulled Mattison over, and the girl was returned to her home. Mattison was reminded of the conditions of his probation. Mattison was told Hays would submit a report to the New Madrid County prosecuting attorney.

Then at 8:47 p.m., Hays said he received a call from

the girl's mother saying that the 14-year-old ran out the back door of the house and said she was going to meet Mattison on U.S. Highway 60.

Hays found the vehicle and tried to pull it over. However, Mattison failed to yield and led officers on a chase that continued from Morehouse through Dexter, Bloomfield and Circle City.

According to Hays, the vehicle approached 110 miles per hour at one time through the chase. For the duration of the chase, Mattison managed to avoid several attempts to stop him, which included spike strips at Highways 60 and FF, a tractor-trailer blocking both lanes of the road an eighth of a mile east of Highway FF and several patrol cars near Highway 114.

As Mattison's vehicle proceeded west on Highway 114, it approached the first bridge and traveled into the ditch and a small river. The car hit the embankment and overturned with the roof of the car submerged underwater. After having dispatch contact Sikeston Rescue,

Hays said the juvenile was yelling his name. He waded into the water, and the female was sitting in the water just in the doorway of the car. Hays helped her onto the river bank and then helped Mattison who was walking around the car. Mattison was then placed under arrest.

Mattison and the passenger were taken to a Cape Girardeau hospital for treatment. The juvenile was later transported to a St. Louis hospital with multiple broken bones in her back, a broken tailbone, and other broken bones including a broken collar bone.

The New Madrid County Sheriff's Office, Dexter Police Department, Missouri State Highway Patrol and Sikeston Department of Public Safety assisted with the chase.

Mattison was scheduled to be arraigned Thursday before Judge Joshua D. Underwood in New Madrid. He is being held in the Pemiscot County Jail with bond set at \$75,000 cash only with special condition that he has no contact with the victim.

ARC ROYALTY CROWNED



DEXTER STATESMAN/Noreen Hyslop

Stoddard County ARC's Valentine King and Queen were crowned just after noon on Tuesday. Each year, names are drawn at random to be honored as Valentine royalty. This year's winners are Anthony Strunk and Kenya Williams.

FLU

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have been close to canceling classes.

Bernie Superintendent Dustin Hicks said attendance was actually getting better in that district. He said during the previous two weeks more students had been out, but the lowest ADA in a school was 89.9 percent.

Dexter Interim Superintendent Amy James said, "Our attendance has been down some, but not at a point where we feel it's necessary to dismiss school." The ADA at all schools in Dexter last week was still in the 90 percent range. The low was at Middle School with 92 percent.

Richland Superintendent Frank Killian said his district did not have the attendance problems that Clarkton and other schools have had with the flu. He said it seemed like more teachers than students had been effected by the flu.

Bloomfield Superintendent Toni Hill said attendance was down in December, but was back in the mid-90s percentage range in January. She said absences had increased in the last week in the Middle and High Schools, but attendance was still between 85-89 percent.

The estimated influenza activity in Missouri is widespread. A season-to-date total of 20,400 laboratory-confirmed cases (17,070 influenza A, 2,933 influenza B, and 397 untyped) have been reported in Missouri as of Feb. 10. The influenza type for reported cases season-to-date includes 84 percent influenza A, 14 percent influenza B, and 2 percent untyped. The highest season-to-date rate of reported laboratory-confirmed influenza cases is among children aged 0-4 years (701

cases per 100,000 population). Sixteen laboratory-confirmed cases of influenza A (H3) were reported by the Missouri State Public Health Laboratory (MSPHL) during Week 5.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has antigenically characterized two influenza isolates from Missouri, to date, this influenza season. Both viruses were antigenically similar to the A/Hong Kong/4801/2014-like (H3N2) virus included in the 2016-2017 Northern Hemisphere vaccine formulation.

Amy Hector, public health nurse at the Stoddard County Health Center, said number of Type A flu cases has really escalated in the county over the past three weeks. She said the flu has been most common in the ages 0-4 ages group, the same as in the state. She also said that of the reported flu cases in the county, 90 percent have been Type A.

Hector said the 2016-17 flu vaccine was formulated for the types of flu seen in the county. She noted that the vaccine may not prevent a person from getting the flu, but it will lessen the symptoms and shorten the duration of the illness.

Hector said there have been no reported cases of mumps in Stoddard County. Mumps have led to problems at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Hector said the mumps vaccine has an 85 percent effectiveness, which still leaves 15 percent of those receiving immunization at risk of getting the mumps. Still, she says the vaccine will lessen the effects of the viral infection.

Seven influenza-associated deaths have been reported in Missouri as of Feb. 4. Through Feb. 4, 87 deaths involving Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) were reported

to the Bureau of Vital Records, resulting in a season-to-date total of 1,052 P&I associated deaths in Missouri.

Common flu symptoms include fever, body aches, cough, stuffy nose and sometimes gastrointestinal symptoms. Flu season historically hits in November and December, but the last couple years it has hit after January in Southeast Missouri.

For the week ending Jan. 28, the Missouri Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report showed the following total flu cases: Scott County, 54; New Madrid County, 21; Mississippi County, 6; Stoddard County, 43; Dunklin County, 41; Pemiscot County, 23; Butler County, 125; Cape County, 246; Bollinger County, 100; and Perry County, 89.

Practicing good hand washing and covering coughs will help prevent spreading the illness.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth because germs spread this way, according to the CDC.

"Don't send your kids to school sick," Hector said. "Don't go to work sick because that just spreads it."

FIRE

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A combine sustained some damage, but was removed from the area before it was destroyed, as were some other items that had been in storage at the facility.

Bloomfield firefighters remained on the scene for more than four and one-half hours. Debris from the fire continued to smolder into Monday.

Dexter firemen were busy battling a brush fire on County Rd. 511A when they received news of the structure fire.

migrant students, wellness, payments from federal awards, residency enrollment checklists and inventory requirements.

The board approved two students trips Monday night. Members of the Sr. Beta Club will be traveling to the state convention in Branson on March 2 through March 5. High School Principal Lucas McKinnis requested and was approved to take FFA students to a minor league hockey game in New Haven, Miss.

"It's actually a shorter trip than going to St. Louis," McKinnis noted, explaining that the trip would be in appreciation for the organization's recent fruit sales efforts. The request met with unanimous approval.

Current student meal prices for Bernie students will remain the same for the 2017-18 school year. Board members followed the cue from their superintendent Monday night, who made the recommendation to leave the district's prices for breakfast and lunch unchanged. Elementary

lunches currently cost \$1.90 per day, with high school lunches at \$2.15. An adult lunch at Bernie Schools costs \$2.70. Student breakfasts are .85 cents and \$1.35 for adults.

Program evaluations for Bernie's Co-Curricular and Discipline/Safety programs were approved with no significant changes from the 2016-17 year.

The board approved the additions of four individuals to the substitute teacher list. They are Carol Beam, Wilma Pennington, Jansen Williams and Millie Dauk. Another individual, Kimberly Martin, was added to the bus driver substitute list.

In executive session, Kyle Matthews was hired as a math teacher for the 2017-18 school year for grades 7-12. He replaces Susan Pfeffer, whose letter of resignation was accepted Monday night.

Also approved during executive session were the re-hirings of Tommie Ellenburg as elementary principal and McKinnis as high school principal for next year.

BAN

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burned after harvest each year by farmers.

Presiding Commissioner Greg Mathis said he didn't think the commission "had the power or authority" to ban the burning.

Mathis said the issue of farmers burning fields has come before the commission before, but the commission felt it was not something they could regulate.

"I don't think we can tell farmers what to do on their

land," said Commissioner Carol Jarrell. "We don't have the authority to tell farmers to stop burning in my opinion."

Mathis said he would investigate the issue further and revisit the issue at a later date.

The needed paperwork was signed by the Stoddard County Development Corporation to seek grant funding from USDA Rural Development to purchase two vehicles for the sheriff's office. The grant application will be for two new Ford Explorers equipped for

law enforcement use. Chief Deputy Andy Holden wrote the grant application. He has been working with Area Specialist Karla Jaques at Rural Development. Signing the application allows it to move forward.

Mathis noted that it does not commit the county to purchasing the vehicles if grant money is not adequate or available. The commission cut the purchase of vehicles in the sheriff's office from the 2017 county budget. Holden hopes federal funding will help cover that expense.

LOVE

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even as a newborn, but other than that, he seemed a perfectly normal and healthy baby. Then one day in 2014, when he was 10 months old, Kristin put Danny down for his afternoon nap, not knowing that in a short time, life as they knew it would forever change.

"He was always very content and easy to put down to sleep. He was good to just put himself to sleep," explains his grandmother.

On that day, his mother left him to go to sleep. When she entered his room after his nap, she found her son in a pool of blood in his crib — seemingly alive and well, but still bleeding from the mouth.

"There was blood everywhere," relates Danny's grandmother.

The culprit was found to be a very small cut in Danny's mouth which likely occurred just before going to sleep or during his nap. The family lived in Birmingham, Ala. at the time, and Danny was rushed to a hospital there.

It took a few days for the diagnosis to come. When it did, the family learned Danny was a severe hemophiliac.

Hemophilia, which is defined as an inherited bleeding disorder that causes abnormal or exaggerated bleeding — internally and/or externally — and poor blood clotting, is inherited in an x-linked recessive genetic pattern, so males are commonly severely affected while females are usually carriers of the disease.

The Shelton family was, at first, devastated. Initial thoughts were that their son would never live a normal life, would never be able to play sports or ride a bike with the fear of an injury looming over their heads.

All those fears changed, though, once the Sheltons did extensive research and were educated about hemophilia. Danny is a normal, active, fun-loving, typical six-year-old. He doesn't guard against injury with any special instructions or protective gear. Rather, he receives the infusions at home twice weekly that keep his blood clotting.

Caution always prevails in the raising of a child with hemophilia, but the Shelton family is determined to raise their son as normally as possible without risking his health.

Danny's parents and grandparents prepared for any unforeseen emergency situation when he might need an instant infusion. Although his infusions keep his blood clotting on a regular basis, any bleed-

ing event will immediately diminish that supply of Factor, the element that is infused to clot Danny's blood. In the event of a car accident, a mishap resulting in a broken bone, a fall causing a cut lip or scalp wound — he could experience massive bleeding that could be fatal. That bleeding can only be brought under control with an immediate infusion.

And so, where Danny is, so is his medication. An emergency dose is even secured to his car seat, with paperwork in place to explain to emergency responders what to do. There is a kit at his school and plenty at home. Where he goes, his medicine goes — just in case. Darlene Shelton has even sewn bright yellow covers, not only for Danny, but for any child with a special medical issue, that secures over the back of his car seat, alerting responders to a possible accident that the child occupying that car seat has an emergency medical condition that requires special attention.

Danny and Darlene Shelton were so proactive that they even notified Dave Cooper, manager of Stoddard County EMS, so that should the need for treating Danny ever arise during a visit to Dexter, local EMS personnel would be prepared.

"They were wonderful," Darlene says. "We met with them. They were educated on the subject, and we just all felt very good about it. They immediately created a treatment plan to assure Danny's safety."

Then the bad news But Darlene and the family learned something about two years ago while Kristin was attending a hemophilia support group meeting. She was told that emergency protocol prohibited responders from administering certain medications related to blood disorders medications not in their possession because of the liability involved.

"Stoddard County personnel received the education they needed to treat Danny," Darlene explains, "but if he was to have an accident or a bleed while in another county, protocol would call for him to be taken to a hospital as far away as St. Louis or Kansas City to one of the six hospitals in the state that carry the special medications to be given that could save his life."

And so, Darlene Shelton went to work to establish "Danny's Dose," a not-for-profit campaign for change in Missouri legislation that would lift the restrictions that are in place

regarding administering patient-carried medication to individuals with bleeding disorders and other rare disorders in an emergency situation.

Assisting Shelton in her efforts, along with family and friends is State Rep. Tila Hubrecht (R-151) from Dexter, who introduced House Bill 226 early for the 2017 session.

"The bill is now in Committee," says Darlene. "It will have to pass from there on to the House and then on to the Senate."

That process is expected to take place during the current legislative session, but the process has not been without its cost, Shelton says.

"We had to obtain a multitude of testimonials," explains Darlene, and we've been consistently lobbying for a solution with our state regulators. It took many meetings, emails and phone calls to really help them realize the extent of and real need for a solution. It's taken two years, and a lot of legwork to get to this point. That's why we developed 'Danny's Dose.'"

The mission of the 'Danny's Dose' campaign is six-fold. First and foremost, it is an effort to inform Americans of the oversight in our emergency medication protocols. Next, it was established to be the driving force in building teams in every state — not only Missouri — to stand and be heard.

Additionally, the campaign was established to protect the individuals who can be harmed or lose a life, to protect those paramedics and doctors who are forced to make a decision of following a rule or saving joints, muscles, organs and lives.

Finally, the campaign exists to see that the emergency medical protocols are amended — one state at a time — and to provide education to consumers in emergency planning.

The Sheltons have learned a lot over the past six years — about hemophilia, about emergency procedures, about the need for change. They have heard of the unfortunate loss of loved ones that have occurred because life-saving medications were not allowed to be administered by emergency personnel.

"There just needs to be change," Darlene attests. "This measure can bring nothing but good. We're so grateful to all who have had a part in making this happen, and we look for positive results in the Missouri legislature very soon."

To read more about Danny's Dose or to contribute to this ongoing effort, visit dannysdose.com

BERNIE

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"We don't look for it to be that high for February, however," Elementary Principal Tommie Ellenburg warned. We've had a lot of illness this month so far."

Supt. Dustin Hicks told the board staff members overwhelmingly favored the Calendar A option when presented with A and B to consider. The approved calendar outlines a 174 days of student attendance with a Christmas break beginning at mid-day Dec. 18 and continuing until Jan. 3. Unless inclement weather plays a part in altering the schedule, the final day of the 2017-18 school year will be May 10.

"We could feasibly see the summer school session concluded before Memorial Day," Hicks noted.

The board, with little discussion, approved several policy and regulation updates as mandated through federal regulations. Among the policy changes — with slight modifications — addressed issues including