Local News

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Dexter Police Dept to Step Up Seat Belt Enforcement

FEBRUARY 06TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter Police Dept to Step Up Seat Belt Enforcement

Dexter, Missouri - Dexter Police Department will be joining efforts with statewide law enforcement on February 16th for an aggressive "Click It or Ticket" mobilization to get more motorists to buckle up — and save more lives.

Despite evidence proving the benefits of wearing a seat belt, 20% of Missouri motorists are still not making it click.

Even worse, 63% of occupants killed in crashes in Missouri were unrestrained.

"Local motorists should be prepared for stepped up Click It or Ticket enforcement," said Lieutenant Benton. "We'll be out there to remind you seat belts can – and do – save lives."

Buckle Up and Arrive Alive.

For information on Missouri seatbelt usage, visit www.saveMOlives.com.

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Stoddard Counties Route U Closed for Bridge Repairs

DECEMBER 27TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Stoddard Counties Route U Closed for Bridge Repairs

Butler and Stoddard Counties Route U Closed for Bridge Repairs

Route U in Butler and Stoddard Counties will be closed as contractor crews perform bridge repairs.

The bridge is located between Route H in Butler County and Route CC in Stoddard County. Detour will be in place.

Weather permitting, work will performed Monday, Jan. 9 through Wednesday, March 15 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily a detour will be in place.

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 (1-888-275-6636) or visit www.modot.org/southeast.

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Want To Track Santa Claus as He Travels Around the World? You Can with NORAD!

DECEMBER 23RD 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Want To Track Santa Claus as He Travels Around the World? You Can with NORAD!

Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado - The North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) is ready to track Santa for the 61st year beginning on Christmas Eve.

The NORAD Tracks Santa program began in 1955 after a phone call was made to the Continental Air Defense Command Operations Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. The call was from a local youngster who dialed a misprinted telephone number in a local newspaper advertisement. The commander on duty who answered the phone that night gave the child the information requested - the whereabouts of Santa.

This began the tradition of tracking Santa, a tradition that was carried on by NORAD when it was formed in 1958.

The NORAD Tracks Santa program has grown immensely since first presented on the Internet in 1997. The website, **www.noradsanta.org** receives millions of unique visitors from hundreds of countries and territories around the world. In addition, a live Operations Center is occupied for 23 hours with more than 1,200 volunteers each year who receive hundreds of thousands of phone calls and emails from families around the world.

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Keep Holiday Food Safe with These Four Safety Steps

DECEMBER 23RD 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Keep Holiday Food Safe with These Four Safety Steps

Christmas, Kwanzaa, and Hanukah all fall within three days of each other this year. As friends and families gather together this season, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food Safety Inspection Service has four food safety tips to ensure a healthy and safe holiday.

Even on Holidays, Always Follow the Four Steps to Food Safety

Clean hands before food preparation by following these simple steps: wet hands, lather with soap, scrub for at least 20 seconds, rinse with clean warm water and dry hands with a clean towel. Always serve food on clean plates and avoid reusing plates that previously held raw meat and poultry.

Separate raw and cooked foods to avoid cross contamination, which is transferring bacteria from raw food onto ready-to-eat food. For example, when preparing a roast and raw veggies for a dip platter, keep the raw meat from coming into contact with the vegetables, or food that does not require further cooking such as sliced, cooked meat and cheese.

Cook using a food thermometer to make sure food reaches a safe minimum internal temperature. Cook all raw beef, pork, lamb and veal steaks, chops, and roasts to a minimum internal temperature of 145 °F as measured with a food thermometer before removing meat from the heat source. For safety and quality reasons, allow meat to rest for at least three minutes before carving or consuming.

Cook all raw ground beef, pork, lamb, and veal to an internal temperature of 160 °F as measured with a food thermometer. Cook all poultry to a safe minimum internal temperature of 165 °F as measured with a food thermometer. When transporting hot, cooked food from one location to another, keep it hot by carrying it in an insulated container. For more information about food thermometers, visit FoodSafety.gov

Chill leftovers within two hours of cooking. Keep track of how long items have been sitting on the buffet table and discard anything out longer than two hours. Never leave perishable foods, such as meat, poultry, eggs and casseroles in the "Danger Zone" over two hours. The danger zone is between 40 and 140 °F where bacteria multiply rapidly. After two hours, enough bacteria may have grown to make partygoers sick. Exceptions to the danger zone include ready-to-eat items like cookies, crackers, bread and whole fruit.

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Ambert Alert Issued for 5 Month Old Girl

DECEMBER 22ND 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Ambert Alert Issued for 5 Month Old Girl

An Amber Alert has been issued for a missing baby last seen in the parking lot of a Church's Chicken restaurant Monday night.

Eden Hawthorne was last seen at the restaurant on the 7200 block of Natural Bridge Road at around 8 p.m. Monday.

According to a missing person report from Normandy police, the mother and daughter were riding in the mother's van with three men and a female driver to the restaurant on the 7200 block of Natural Bridge Road in Normandy.

When they arrived, the mother and one of the men got out of the car and went into the restaurant. The other three left the scene with the child in the car.

Police said they may be traveling in the mother's van, a dark-grey 2006 Chrysler Town and Country with Missouri pates PN4R7B.

Anyone with information is asked to call the 911 or the Normandy Police Department at

(314) 385-3300.

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