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2022 Stoddard County Coroner's Report

JANUARY 05TH 2023 BY DEE LOFLIN

2022 Stoddard County Coroner's Report

2022 Stoddard County Coroner's report.

"While not a requirement for the office, I plan to continue releasing this report annually to keep the public informed and provide transparency."

"I would like to say thank you to our Stoddard County Funeral homes, Mathis Funeral Home, Watkins Funeral Home, and Morgan Funeral Home for their assistance and professionalism. I would also like to thank all of our county first responders for their assistance."

While there are never any positives in a report like this, it is encouraging that our county did not have a homicide in 2022. It is also important to note that suicides were down nearly 75% from 2021. I will continue to encourage mental health and suicide awareness in hopes that number will someday be 0.

The Coroner's office is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Have a safe and blessed 2023

Sincerely,

Brent Stidham, Stoddard County Coroner

2022 budget information Total budgeted: \$73,022.85

Total actual: \$61,792.00

2022 case information

The following information is in regards to Coroner's Office cases only and does not include deaths occurring under the care of a physician such as hospice.

Total cases investigated and certified by the Coroner's office: 105 Scene responses: 78

Natural Causes: 86

COVID-19: 2

Homicide: 0

Suicide: 3

Motor vehicle accident: 4 Overdose: 4

Accident (drowning): 1 Accident (other): 2 Cases pending: 3

Age groups

0-18: 3

19-45: 9

46-70: 49

70 and over: 44

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Southeast Missouri Rattled by 4.0 Earthquake on Wednesday Evening

NOVEMBER 18TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Southeast Missouri Rattled by 4.0 Earthquake on Wednesday Evening](#)

Many residents of Southeast Missouri were rattled on Wednesday evening when a 4.0 magnitude earthquake struck the area.

The quake occurred at 8:53 p.m. and was centered five miles south-southeast of Williamsville according to the United States Geological Survey (USGS).

According to USGS data this was the largest earthquake in the region since a 3.9 magnitude quake hit the Bertrand area in February of 2012.

Andrew Bohnert, Stoddard County EMA Director stated, "We have not heard of any damage to homes or building in the Stoddard County area, but some residents reported

pictures falling off walls." He went on to say that more damage was reported in the Butler County area including some drywall cracks and maybe some windows broken.

The USGS initially reported the earthquake as a magnitude 3.7 but later upgraded it to a 4.0.

Many residents across Stoddard County and surrounding area reported hearing a loud boom just before the earthquake hit. The ground shook for several seconds. One person reported her bird felt it before she did and alerted her to something coming.

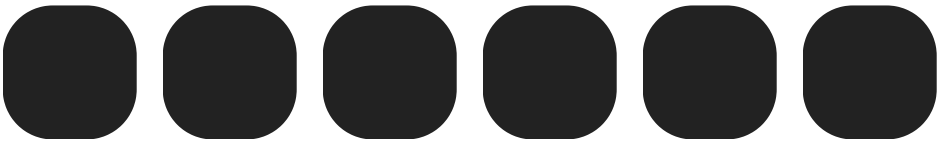
City Administrator, Trevor Pulley, contacted the ShowMe Times within minutes to let people know he and Dexter's EMA Director, Don Seymore, were out checking buildings downtown. They found some wind damage as the winds picked up right around the time of the earthquake. They both have reported no major damage.

If you felt the earthquake the USGS would like to hear from you. [Here is a quick survey that will help them with data!](#) [Click HERE.](#)

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Several Inmates Test Positive for Covid-19 at Stoddard County Jail

JULY 27TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Several Inmates Test Positive for Covid-19 at Stoddard County Jail

Bloomfield, MO - It has been reported by the Stoddard County Health Department and the Stoddard County Sheriff's Department that several inmates at the Stoddard County Jail have tested positive with COVID-19.

According to Ben Godwin, Stoddard County Health Department Director, "They are in the process of testing all inmates with Covid-19 Rapid Tests as we have had positive cases among the inmates in the jail yesterday and today."

Carl Hefner, Stoddard County Sheriff commented, "As of Monday, July 26th we have confirmed there are active COVID-19 cases in the Stoddard County Jail. Since the COVID outbreak began we at the Stoddard County Jail have taken precautions in preventing COVID from being in our jail. Even with the precautions taken it was inevitable that COVID would get in our jail facility. We have been very fortunate to this point to not have had any cases in our jail."

"We are currently working diligently to isolate people as best as we can. At this time no inmates have had the need to seek medical attention but if the need arises, we are committed to keeping the inmates safe as well as the general public."

The Stoddard County Sheriff's Department is currently working on a testing plan for the inmates and staff.

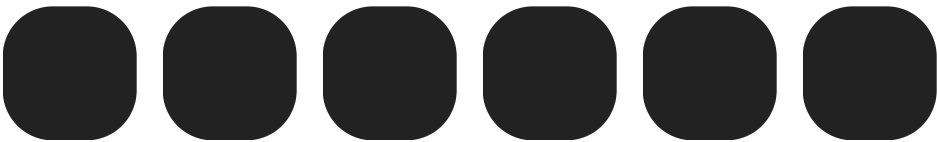
Hefner would like to reassure the public that if you are in need of law enforcement, please do not hesitate to contact them.

"We will continue to offer our services regardless of the situation in the jail," continued Hefner. "We will strive to keep our community safe from a law enforcement standpoint as well as keeping our citizens safe from COVID. Any of our staff that are showing any signs or symptoms of COVID are required to obtain a COVID test before returning to work so the citizens can feel safe."

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Dexter Fire Chief and EMA Director, Don Seymore, Offers Chainsaw Crews Information

JULY 12TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter Fire Chief and EMA Director, Don Seymore, Offers Chainsaw Crews Information

Dexter, MO - Don Seymore, Dexter Fire Chief and EMA Director for the city of Dexter has three chainsaw crews working in the area to help with tornado damage.

These three crews will be contacting homeowners to assist them with tree cutting and moving the trees to the edge of the road or alley. The organizations will be wearing their origination shirts with their name badges.

They are:

1. Team Rubicon
2. Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief
3. Crossroad Fellowship List

"Please remember we will be experiencing scams in the area and want you to pay for service which they may not provide," commented Seymore. "These chainsaw groups listed are all voluntary and very reputable. They are here to help the citizens of Dexter."

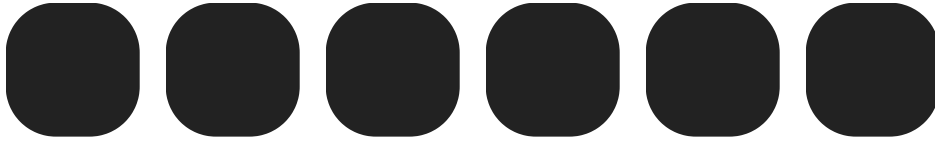
If you have any questions or need assistance with tree removal please contact the Dexter Fire Department at 573-624-3425.

The Dexter City EOC is still in operation at the Direction of Fire Chief Don Seymore.

Pictured from left are Dexter City Administrator, Trevor Pulley, Fire Chief Don Seymore, and Police Chief Hank Trout.

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Dexter PD to Participate in 2021 Click It or Ticket Enforcement

MAY 18TH 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Dexter PD to Participate in 2021 Click It or Ticket Enforcement](#)

Dexter, Missouri - Dexter Police will be joining with statewide law enforcement May 24 – June 6, 2021 for a statewide “Click It or Ticket” mobilization to step up enforcement on Missouri’s seat belt law.

More than 6 out of 10 people killed in 2020 Missouri traffic crashes were unbuckled. Even with all the advancements in automobile safety, a seat belt remains a person’s single greatest defense in the event of a crash.

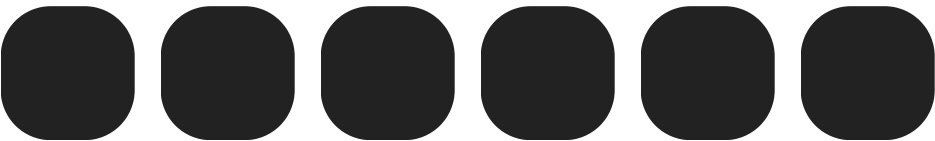
Missouri’s seat belt use has shown significant improvement in the last three years, but the state remains just below the national average in usage. Missouri has an 86.1 percent seat belt use while the national average is 90.7 percent. Teens and pick-up truck drivers are among those least likely to buckle up at 75.5 and 71.6 percent, respectively.

“Nearly every day someone dies in a Missouri traffic crash because they weren’t buckled up,” said Chief Hank Trout. “We will be pulling out all the stops to help ensure motorists are making the smart decision to buckle up.”

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