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Hearing canceled in baby death case

By **KIMBERLY HOUGHTON**
Democrat Staff Writer

ROCHESTER — A probable cause hearing scheduled for Monday for the man accused of beating his girlfriend's 21-month-old daughter to death has been canceled.

The hearing was scheduled for 10 a.m. at the Rochester District Court for Chad E. Evans, 29, of 191 Milton Road, who is facing one count of manslaughter in connection with the death of Cassidy Bortner.

However, Assistant Attorney General Christopher Carter said late Friday that next week's hearing was canceled. No additional information was available Friday.

The scheduled hearing would have determined whether Evans' case will be transferred from district court to the Strafford County Superior Court to be presented to a grand jury for a possible indictment.

Evans is currently free on \$100,000 cash bail with restrictions to have no contact with Cassidy's mother, Amanda Bortner, 18, who was living with Evans at the time of her child's death.

Kassidy died Nov. 9 at York Hospital in York, Maine, after being dropped off at her aunt's residence in Kittery, Maine, by her mother. Kassidy's aunt, Jennifer Conley, and her boyfriend, F. Jeffrey Mar-

shall, periodically provided baby-sitting services for Cassidy at their home on Rogers Road.

An unidentified man called Kittery police from the residence about 12:41 p.m. on Nov. 9 requesting an ambulance for a child, according to police reports.

One report stated that the man told a Kittery dispatcher the child had fallen. Another report indicated the man called when he was unable to wake the little girl from a nap. A third account came from one of Marshall's neighbors, who said earlier that Marshall was told the child was hit in the head with a baseball bat while playing at her home in Rochester.

A week after Cassidy's death, police arrested Evans and charged him with manslaughter. Details of how Cassidy died have not yet been released, however, a preliminary autopsy report reveals she died of blunt force injury to the head.

Evans has also been charged with two counts of violation of probation. He was placed on one year of probation earlier this year for two assault charges against his former wife.

A hearing will be held Jan. 8 at the Rochester District Court for those charges.

(Democrat Staff Writer Jennifer Saunders contributed to this report.)

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Saved

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"There are a lot of heroes here," Young said. "A lot of people really helped to save this woman's life."

Wold suffered minor hypothermia and was transported to Frisbie Memorial Hospital where she

tough old bird," who had just become a member of the church.

"The community really cared about finding this woman," he said.

Young agreed, explaining she would probably not have survived the cold night in the woods

Young.

Bosworth said he visited Wold in the hospital on Friday, adding she was recovering well from the incident.

James Martel said Wold is an "inspiration" to the town, adding

the United States army, according to Martel's wife, Gail. She said Wold was a tough woman who probably got disoriented and lost her way off the main trail and could not get up once she had fallen.

In addition to Wold's dog, a sec-

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