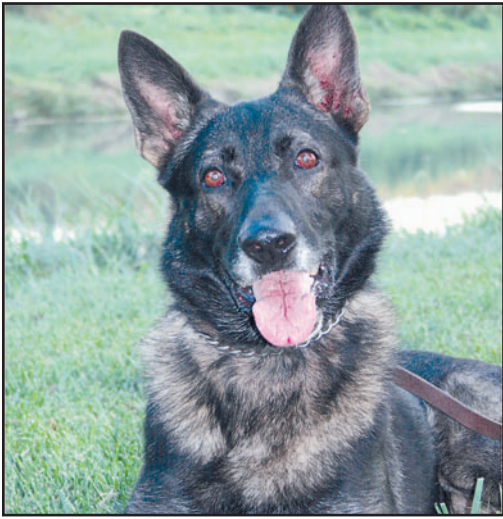


Council budget cuts bites into K-9 food supply



Dorsey

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

Carroll County Sheriff Tony Burns was not willing to cease operations of the department's K-9 program just because no money was appropriated in the 2008 budget for food and veterinary services. Instead, he decided to involve the community in the solution for the problem. And of course, the problem can be solved easily with more money.

"Dogs are invaluable and we need them in our department," Burns said. "They are a wonderful asset to our community."

The department supports two drug dogs, Dorsey and Reno. Dorsey has worked for the county for approximately three years. His handler is Mike Thomas. Reno, whose handler is Tony Liggett, has been in Carroll County since July of this year. The dogs eat between 30 and 36 bags of one kind of dry food each year.

Burns said food and veterinary services are provided at Bush's

Increase in hungry Hoosiers

Comet staff report

Indiana has seen significant increases in the percentage of children living in poverty, public school students receiving free or reduced-price lunches, and households with children under 18 receiving food stamps. These are indicators that a growing number of Hoosier children are suffering from hunger.

According to Indiana Youth Institute's (IYI) latest Issue Alert, "The New Face of Hunger: The Working Poor," nearly one in seven Hoosier households suffers from low or very low food security. These households are unsure from where their next meal will come.

The findings illustrate that hunger is not just an issue with the unemployed or homeless, according to IYI president and CEO Bill Stanczykiewicz.

"One in four working families in Indiana is considered low income and the vast majority of Hoosier families receiving food stamps have at least one or more workers in them," he said. "Children who are hungry suffer physical, social and emotional consequences. Such as being more likely to receive lower grades, be suspended or expelled, suffer from depression and have suicidal thoughts."

The federal government considers a family of four as "low income" if its annual household income falls below \$41,300.

The Issue Alert cites Census Bureau statistics showing approximately 14 percent of Hoosier families with children receive food stamps, which ranks 19th highest in the country. Nearly half of the food stamp recipients in Indiana are children under 18.

During the most recent school year, 28.2 percent of the children in Indiana's public schools received free lunches, a 40 percent increase

Purdue Garden Calendar

By B. Rosie Lerner
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Purdue Extension
Consumer Horticulturist

JANUARY HOME (Indoor plants and activities)

Keep holiday poinsettias and other plants near a bright window. Water as top of soil becomes dry.

Increase humidity around houseplants by grouping plants together, placing them on a pebble-water tray or running a humidifier.

Check stored produce and tender flower bulbs and roots for rot, shriveling or excess moisture. Remove and discard damaged material.

Repot houseplants as they out-grow current pots.

YARD (Lawns, woody ornamentals and fruits)

Check young trees for rodent injury on lower trunks. Prevent injury with hardware cloth or protective collars.

Keep road and sidewalk salt away from plants. Construct a screen of burlap, if necessary, to keep salt spray off plants.

Veterinary Service in Flora. The food is sold to the county at cost, which is \$34.75 per bag.

"We feel like the dogs provide a very valuable service," Julie Bush told the *Comet* Friday. "You can't put a dollar figure on that."

Bush said a generous donation has already been received and put into a special fund for the dogs' care. Additionally, drug company representative Gina Silverthorn of Cutler has donated flea and heartworm preventative medications. Bush said yearly veterinary services cost approximately \$2,000 for the dogs.

Burns suggested those in the community who want to help, can send cash to the fund established at the veterinary clinic. The clinic's address is 2145 E. SR18, Flora. The telephone number is (574) 967-4341.

"Julie Bush is working hard to get everything set up for us," he said.

Cash donations can also be dropped off or sent to the sheriff's department on W. Main St. Burns

since 2000. The percentage of public school students receiving reduced-price lunches has gone up 30 percent during that same time period. Students from families with annual incomes less than \$26,845 qualify for free lunches while families with incomes between \$26,825 and \$38,203 qualify for reduced-price lunches.

Much of the efforts to fight hunger across Indiana are coordinated by a network of 12 regional food banks. Relief agencies say some people experiencing hunger cannot access these resources because of physical, economic and other restraints, such as a lack of transportation.

The issue also reports that 15 percent of the families in Indiana experience low or very low food security, which means the availability of food in household is uncertain, insufficient or limited. Characteristics of individuals with low or very low food security include:

- concern over a shortage of food, purchased food will not last until the buyer can next afford a trip to the grocery store
- decreased meal size
- skipping means even when hungry
- unable to afford balanced meals, and
- weight loss due to lack of food.

Researchers say food insecurity can lead to more hospitalization and health care visits, and caring for those with food security issues, charity to feed the hungry and the loss of productivity caused by hunger or hunger-related issues are estimated to cost Indiana about \$1.9 billion every year.

Those wishing to help stop hunger in Indiana can contact local food banks to make donations of money or food or provide help through community agencies serving the hungry.

"Leaf" through nursery catalogs and make plans for landscape and home orchard additions. Order plants early for best selection.

Early spring-flowering trees and shrubs, such as forsythia, crabapple, flowering quince, flowering dogwood and honeysuckle, can be forced for early indoor blooms by placing cut branches in water in a warm location.

GARDEN (Flowers, vegetables and small fruits)

Send for seed catalogs for the garden.

Sketch your garden plans on paper, including what to grow, spacing, arrangement and number of plants needed.

Order seeds and plants as early as possible for best selection.

Wood ashes from the fireplace can be spread in the garden, but don't overdo it. Wood ashes increase soil pH, and excess application can make some nutrients unavailable for plant uptake. Have soil tested to be certain of the pH before adding wood ash.



Reno

said cash, check or credit/debit cards can be used to provide funding for the dogs' needs.

As an example of what the dogs do, Burns said Dorsey was involved in the recent 21 pound marijuana bust in Delphi.

"The dogs are certified and can give the probable cause for search warrants," he said.

"Whatever those guys need, we're willing to do it for them," Bush concluded.

ISP issues November report

Comet staff report

Indiana State Police at the Lafayette Post has released statistics for November. Troopers issued 1582 traffic citations and wrote 883 traffic warnings. Troopers also arrested 18 drunk drivers and made 41 criminal arrests.

They also issued 383 truck citations, made 151 commercial motor vehicle inspections, investigated 63 vehicle crashes, made 41 crash arrests, and made 151 calls for service.

Detectives from the Criminal Investigations Division, working from the Lafayette Post, worked nine new cases and assisted the troopers in total criminal arrests.

Citizens are encouraged to report suspected methamphetamine activity by calling the Indiana State Police Methamphetamine Tip Hotline at 1-800-453-4756.

Police & Fire Calls

Police reports are gathered from available records on file at local police departments. This information is a matter of public record and does not imply guilt or innocence. Information for fire reports is also gathered from reports on file with local fire departments.

Delphi Police Dept.

Dec. 4 - Theft and criminal mischief, 408 W. Front St. Justin and Victoria Hayden reported the rear window of vehicle shattered and speakers and a faceplate stolen. Officer Justin Wilson responded.

Dec. 14, 8:37 p.m. - Domestic battery, Summit St. Chris Emmitt, 21, Delphi, was arrested on suspicion of domestic battery, public intoxication and minor consumption. Jeff Emmitt, Delphi, was arrested on suspicion of domestic battery and strangulation. Officer Chuck Kent responded.

Dec. 17, 4:04 p.m. - Property damage, Deer Meadows Rd. Kevin Milakovic, 23, Camden. Kent responded.

Dec. 19, 8:28 a.m. - Property damage with injuries, CR800 W. at CR175 N. Lois J. Taylor-Wolf, 47, and Wayne L. Disinger, 76, both of Delphi. Passenger in Disinger's vehicle was transported to a Lafayette hospital. Sgt. Brook McCain responded.

Dec. 19, 10:18 a.m. - Domestic battery, 116 E. Front St. Daniel D. Pearson, 20, was arrested for a Class D felony. McCain responded.

Dec. 20, 12:25 a.m. - Property damage, CVS parking lot. Danny W. Hayes, 52, Lafayette, and Joseph M. Little, 20, Delphi. McCain responded.

Dec. 20, 9:20 a.m. - Property damage, S. Washington St. Gordon J. Waligorski, 71, Delphi, and Robert G. Beach III, 55, Pataskala, Ohio. McCain responded.

Sheriff's Dept. Criminal/non-criminal reports

Dec. 13, 3:11 p.m. - Theft, 3300 block of W. CR600S. Checks removed from a rural mailbox and attempted cashed. Sgt. Dennis Randle responded.

Dec. 14, 8:03 a.m. - Criminal mischief, 400 block W. SR218. Deputy Grant Davidson responded.

Dec. 14, 8:20 a.m. - 1100 block N. Ravina. Signs taken from a property in Jefferson Twp. Deputy John Chapman responded.

Dec. 15, 10:45 a.m. - Theft, 500 block of E. CR700S. Tools taken from a property in Democrat Twp. Chapman responded.

Dec. 15, 6:58 p.m. - Harassment, 4800 block of N. SR29. Phone harassment reported. Deputy Zachary Hall responded.

Dec. 15, 7:44 p.m. - Intimidation reported by a resident. Hall responded.

Dec. 15, 10:40 p.m. - Burglary, 400 block of W. Cumberland St., Camden. Hall responded.

Dec. 16, 1:19 a.m. - OWI/endangering, US421. William Kirby,

Mary Whitfield
Camden 686-2553

Mt. Zion Lodge #211 will meet at 6 p.m. Jan. 1 in the Masonic Temple. A carry-in meal will be served and installation of officers will be held. Families are invited.

Camden Lions Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 2 in the Fire-

man's Lounge.

Dorcas Missionary Society of the Baptist Church will meet at 6 p.m. Jan. 3 in the church with Cathy Gero as hostess. Mary Lou Rude will give devotions. Bible book of the month is Proverbs.

A Jesus Junction committee meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 3 at St. Peter's Lutheran

Church.

A foot care clinic will be held at 3 p.m. Jan. 3 at the Senior Citizens' Lounge.

Fifteen youth attended the Dec. 12 Jesus Junction meeting.

Camden Lions Club's annual family Christmas party was held Dec. 15 with 41 in attendance. Special guest was Santa Claus.

A Family & Friends New Year's Eve get-together will be held at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 31 at the Lower Deer Creek Church of the Brethren. Everyone is invited to enjoy fellowship and fun while ushering in the new year.

Burlington

Cheryl Milburn
Burlington 566-3453

Kiwanis will meet Saturday for breakfast and meeting at the fire station.

Park Board will meet at 7 p.m. Jan. 2 at the Community Park Building.

Newly elected town officials will have an open house at the town hall on Jan. 2, 3 and 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Residents and business owners in the town and township are welcome to stop by to offer suggestions and discuss ideas and concerns. Snacks and drinks will be served.

Community Club will meet Jan. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Community Park Building.

Red Cross Bloodmobile will

be in Burlington on Jan. 8 from 1 to 6:30 p.m. at the Community Park Building. The drive is sponsored by Kiwanis Club.

Crossroads Community Christian Church will observe Donut Sunday on Dec. 30. Youth group will meet at 6 p.m. Sunday at Dan and Teresa Butcher's home.

Faith Church of Christ will have a repeat performance of its Christmas cantata at 6 p.m. Sunday.

Adults of Faith Church of Christ will have a New Year's Eve party at 8 p.m. Monday at the home of Lance and Diana Alter.

Jan. 6, Sunday Flock carry-in dinner will be held at 6 p.m. at Faith Church of Christ.

Washington Twp.

Marilyn Hile
Deer Creek 859-4871

Deer Creek Presbyterian Church will host its monthly breakfast on Jan. 5. The breakfast will be from 7 to 10 a.m. and everyone is invited.

Pastor Tom McShannock's daughter and husband, Megan and Ryan Trezick, are here from Minneapolis to visit over the holidays.

A surprise birthday party was held to honor Mary Ellen Johnson on her 90th birthday. Hosted by the Good Neighbor Gals, the party was held at The Iniquity Inn near Logansport.

Those present were her daughter, Barbara Ottinger, of Muncie and her son, Larry Johnson, of Deer Creek and Good Neighbor Gals, Ellen Herr, Dottie Delaplane, Helen Forgey, Marilyn Hile, Liz Mylet, Betty Bell, Dot Fulton, Doris Jean Bryan, and Deb Delaplane. Other guests were Kim Kitchel, Lavon John-

son, Susie Dyke, Evelyn Wingard, Thelma Myer, Betty Minnick, Chris Kennell, Mary Bowman, Betty Sanderson, Jo Delaplane, Doris Fouts, Juanita Roberson, Mary Smith, Mary Blue and Lois Wallace.

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