

Busy beginning for Delphi police and fire

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

January held a lot of activity for residents throughout Carroll County. There was the flood. There was the snowstorm. And for two city departments there was a huge increase in their monthly activity.

"Those are real numbers," Delphi Police Chief Justin Darling told city council members at the Monday night meeting as they reviewed the January police statistical report. "Delphi officers have done a tremendous job in the past 30 days."

Darling explained that he directed officers to give written warnings rather than verbal ones. He said that move added a level of accountability to department activity.

According to Darling, officers have made additional contacts since the beginning of the year. The more contacts with the public led to more contacts with criminals, which resulted in significant increases in the number of traffic summons, warnings, misdemeanor arrests and reports, and felony and information reports from December and from one year ago.

City officers issued nine traffic summons in December and 27 in January. The number of warnings jumped from 25 to 131 in the same period. Misdemeanor arrests more than doubled. The detailed report can be viewed at the city building.

"We aren't out there just to get numbers," Darling clarified. "We are out there meeting and coming in contact with people to be proactive in our approach to crime prevention."

Economic census deadline approaching

Comet staff report

The Feb. 12 due date for the return of 2007 Economic Census forms is only a few days away.

More than four million American businesses, including 220 in Carroll County, received a form in December. Many very

Fire chief John Patterson also reported a busy January. He said the number of man-hours fighting fires "was pretty high."

With only two minor injuries, the department's 29 firefighters utilized 485 hours fighting fires.

Patterson said the department is looking for additional firefighters. He said he would like to have between 32 and 35 personnel in the department.

Department reports

Street commissioner Aaron Lyons reported the city hauled 45 tons of flood debris to help the county highway department during the recent flood event.

He said the department kept track of fuel costs with the hope of reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Wastewater superintendent Dick VanSickle said 120 bions of solid waste was processed and hauled away in 2007.

Airport manager Brian Stirn said the runway lights were hit by lightening last week and are no longer operational. Due to the nature of the lighting it will be necessary for a professional in the field to diagnose and repair them. The cost should be covered by insurance.

Stirn reported the trolley drove 1,899 miles and had 1,521 riders in 2007. A different engine is scheduled to be transplanted into the vehicle in February.

Other business

Council approved \$29,636 for the remainder of the roofing project on the city building.

Council representative on the North West Solid Waste Dis-

trict Kyle Germond reported the city was encouraged to utilize all of the \$20,000 allocated grant for recycling activities.

Daryl Smith of the Carroll County Economic Development Corporation provided a brief review of the St. Claire Group Strategic Directions report. He thanked council members for the financial support from the city for the study and said electronic copies of the report can be obtained by calling the EDC office at (765) 564-2060.

Mayor's report

"It has been a busy 30 days," mayor Randy Strasser reported.

He said computer and telephone issues plagued the city building but employees were working to immediately correct problems that arose. The Web site is being improved and will provide additional content.

Strasser said departments will work on 2009 budget needs and requests in April and May to aid council members during the June budget hearings.

A policies and procedures committee and a finance committee are being established. Council members Danny Sterrett and Carolyn Pearson, along with Strasser and clerk-treasurer Janice Roe will serve on the finance committee. Several department heads will be asked to serve on the policy committee.

The next meeting will be March 3 at 7 p.m. Board of works will meet at 6:30 p.m.

Camden

Mary Whitfield
Camden 686-2553

Camden Lions Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 6 in the Fireman's Lounge.

A footcare clinic will be held Feb. 7 at 3 p.m. at the Senior Citizen's Lounge.

Dorcas Missionary Society of the Baptist Church will meet at 6 p.m. Feb. 7 in the church fellowship hall. Devotions will be given by Mary Lou Rude. Hostess will be Cathy Gero.

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.

Police Dept.

Jan. 21, 11:25 a.m. - Illegal possession of alcohol, Delphi Middle School. Evidence secured from juvenile male. Juvenile was released to parent. Sgt. Brook McCain responded.

Jan. 22, 4:06 p.m. - Criminal mischief and disorderly conduct, 1265 Bradford Dr. Juvenile female reported out of control at Wabash Valley Outpatient Clinic. Juvenile released to parent and report forwarded to probation department and prosecutor. McCain responded.

Jan. 22, 5:32 p.m. - Neglect of a dependent, Delphi. Child found outside without adult supervision. Caretaker located and child was returned. McCain responded.

Jan. 25, 4:07 p.m. - Property damage, US421 near Illinois St. Bethany D. Madrid, 16, Lafayette, and Robert H. Gall, 39, Logansport. McCain responded.

Jan. 25, 11:55 a.m. - Property damage, Dairy Queen parking lot. Bradley J. Beck, 50, Galveston, and a parked vehicle. McCain responded.

Sheriff's Dept.

Criminal/non-criminal reports

Jan. 24, 5:55 a.m. - Theft, 6400 block of N CR265W. Several vehicles broken into. Sgt. Dennis Randle investigated.

Jan. 26, 1:28 a.m. - Public intoxication, 1700 block of US421. William Bray, 27, Mulberry was arrested. Deputy Zachary Hall responded.

Jan. 26, 8:30 a.m. - Theft, 6100 block of N Sleepy Hollow Rd. Refrigerator, gas range, television and

washer/dryer combo were taken from flood victim. Deputy Grant Davidson investigated.

Jan. 26, 11:56 p.m. - Juvenile delinquency, 11900 block of N CR975W. Deputy Tony Liggett responded.

Jan. 27, 9:05 a.m. - Criminal mischief, 7200 block of S CR800W. Mailboxes vandalized in Clay Township. Deputy John Chapman responded.

Jan. 27, 7:10 p.m. - Possession of controlled substance, CR350E and CR200S. Brandon Anderson, 18, Burlington, was arrested on suspicion of possession of controlled substance and possession of paraphernalia after a K-9 investigation of a suspicious vehicle at a church. Liggett responded.

Jan. 28, 3:24 p.m. - Driving while suspended/prior, 9000 block of W CR290N. Adam Smith was arrested. Reserve Deputy Ryan Browning responded.

Jan. 29, 1:30 p.m. - Theft, 6700 block of W CR100N. Theft of \$900 from an IPC employee's locker was reported. Randle responded.

Jan. 29, 3 p.m. - Identity deception, 0 block of W CR485S. Kristy Walsh, Cutler, reported a friend used her identity to activate a cell phone in her name. Randle investigated.

Jan. 29, 3 p.m. - Criminal information, US421 and SR18. Domestic dispute reported. Maj. Tobe Leazenby responded.

Jan. 30, 10:30 a.m. - Criminal mischief, 9200 block of W CR550N. Tires damaged on vehicles owned by Jeff Phillipppo. Davidson responded.

Burlington

Cheryl Milburn
Burlington 566-3453

Park Board will meet at 7 p.m. Feb. 6 at the Community Building.

Town Council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the town hall. All are welcome to attend.

Classy Classic E.H. Club will meet at 7 p.m. Monday in the Burlington Community Library. Elgie Avery will be hostess.

Kiwanis Club will meet Saturday morning at 7:30 for breakfast and meeting at the fire station.

Burlington Church of Christ will have its annual Valentine Dinner at 6 p.m. Saturday.

The United Methodist Church will have an Ash Wednesday Service with communion tonight, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m.

United Methodist Cluster Lenten Breakfast will be held Sunday at Forest from 7 to 8 a.m.

Crossroads Community Christian Church will have a Valentine Dinner on Sunday.

Faith Church of Christ will host a God Is Love Banquet Sunday evening at 6 p.m. The meal will be catered and the program will be presented by Restoration.

Faith Church will have Game Night from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 14 at the church.

Washington Twp.

Marilyn Hile
Deer Creek 859-4871

Deer Creek Presbyterian Church will have its Lenten service at the church on Feb 6 at 6:30 p.m.. All are invited.

On Feb 10 at the Deer Creek Presbyterian Church, worship will begin at 10 a.m. with Rev. Dave Herron. Following the service there will be a congregational meeting to consider and vote on Rev. Herron. All members are encouraged to attend. Also, please bring cookies, candy or goodies for valentine packages.

Faith Lutheran Church will have Ash Wed. services on Feb. 6 at 7 p.m. Choir practice will follow the service.

Friday Faith Lutheran will have family night, starting at 6 p.m. Those attending are asked to bring snacks. Everyone is invited.

The WELCA of Faith Lutheran Church will have its meeting on Feb. 12 at 1:30 p.m. at the church. The lesson will be given by Etta Byers and the hostess will be Linda Layman. All the women of the church are invited to attend.

A group of ladies of the Deer Creek area traveled to Camden to pick up Jean Meek and take her out to lunch. Those attending were Mary Ellen Johnson, Jo Lantz, Doris Jean Bryan, Mary Smith and Dot Fulton.

Remember the sick and shut-ins during these cold months with cards, calls and visits.

If you have a news item, call the above number and the call will be returned.



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Dear Dr. Wise: Winter is here and I was wondering about how to keep my pet safe during these winter months. Do you have any tips for me?

Answer: Whether or not snow actually falls in your area, many people will gather for traditional holiday parties. With all of the delicious smells and exciting new people, our pets may take advantage of a stranger's generosity or an unattended plate in order to help themselves to the appetizers. However natural it is to share with our pets, there are a few foods that should be avoided. These foods include:

- Excessively salty foods
- Sweets and chocolate
- Foods with onion or onion powder
- Excessively fatty foods
- Grapes and raisins
- Poultry bones
- Alcohol or eggnog
- Chocolate and sweets

Chocolate and sweets deserve special mention due to their abundance during this time of year. Some candies and foods that are artificially sweetened with the ingredient, xylitol, can actually cause a rapid decrease in blood sugar of dogs and has even been implicated in some liver failure cases.

Chocolate is a well-known toxic for dogs, but baking chocolate and the semi-sweet varieties are much more dangerous, causing heart problems, vomiting, and even death. And, it should go without saying that pets should never be given any alcoholic beverage.

In our quest to decorate and create a cheerful atmosphere, we often will use various plants. Almost any member of the lily family can be deadly to cats and other holiday foliage, such as mistletoe and holly, can also cause severe stomach upset to our pets. Interestingly, poinsettias are actually over-rated with respect to toxicity. Most pets who ingest a poinsettia leaf may have mild irritation of the mouth and/or stomach.

Artificial decorations can be just as bad. To a cat, a ribbon or strand of tinsel can be too much of a temptation. These long string-like objects can be swallowed and cause major problems in the intestines and

stomach. Electric cords can cause electrocution or severe burns if chewed upon and many glass ornaments or lights can be easily broken and cut your pet's feet or mouth. Beyond the dangers indoors, the outdoor world may be just as bad. One of the most common poisonings of pets during the winter months is a case of ingested car anti-freeze. Its pleasant, sweet taste masks a deadly poison that can kill with very small amounts. If you even suspect that your pet has consumed anti-freeze, you need to contact your veterinarian or nearest emergency hospital immediately! Rat and mouse poisons, as well as ice melting products should be used with care around any pets.

Pets can suffer the effects of frostbite and hypothermia just as easily as their owners. Household pets should stay indoors in very cold temperatures. But if your pet must stay outdoors, be sure to provide them shelter from the wind and moisture. In this case, bigger is not better! Smaller homes will help to trap body heat more efficiently. Use heated water bowls and replenish everyday.

Knowing your pet's limitations will be very important during these months. An older dog may not be as sure-footed on the ice and young puppies may not have enough body fat to keep them warm for extended periods in the snow. Monitor your pets when they go out for exercise or for their "bathroom breaks" to insure that they are able to make it back on their own. In addition, the added excitement and presence of strangers in the house may be too much for some excitable pets. Find a quiet room for their kennel and make time for them after your guests have left. Wintertime can be glorious and full of family fun. It does not have to involve a visit to the animal emergency room if a few simple precautions are taken. Talk to your family veterinarian about a winter "check-up" for your pet and how to avoid a winter catastrophe.

If you have a question, write Dr. Wise, Indiana Veterinary Medical Association, 201 S. Capitol Avenue, Suite 405, Indianapolis, IN, 46225, or www.invma.org.

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