

# Unity's plans include primary care physician in Camden

Susan Scholl  
Editor

Unity Healthcare will be making an all out effort to recruit a primary care physician for its medical facility in Camden, announced Pete Wagoner at the March 12 Camden Town Council meeting.

Wagoner said he was told of the decision by Unity's chief operating officer Mark Wessel following a meeting of Unity's primary care physicians.

"It will be difficult to find a practicing physician to serve a small community in a rural area," said the council president, "but Unity is willing to continue to pay the lease on the building."

"We will continue to work with Unity on a month-to-month basis through the balance of the year," Wagoner said.

Unity had originally planned to hire a nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or part-time physician for the facility but now believes a physician is needed to make the practice successful, said Wagoner.

## Wastewater project

The wastewater project is expected to begin the end of this month, said Wagoner. "The project will cost us nearly \$1 million and it will be a project that is nearly invisible, but it will keep us in compliance with IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management) regulations. We had to do this to keep our permit so we can discharge into the creek."

Due to the project, the shooting range will not be available for use at least through spring.

## Dogs and cats

Many complaints have been received about dogs and cats roaming the town.

With the elimination of animal control, residents need to make a better effort to keep their animals at home, said Wagoner. Letting them roam free is a violation of the town's ordinance. The marshals can cite owners for non-compliance.

A reminder was issued that residents must purchase tags for their dogs as per the town's ordinance. Tags may be obtained at the town of-

face.

"We can thank the county for eliminating animal control," said Wagoner. "It's a problem."

"And it's going to get worse," added council member Richard Fite.

## Other business

Everett Snoeberger asked officials if the town has a plan on how to reduce costs with expected revenue shortfalls that trending is expected to create.

"We knew this was going to be a problem two years ago," said clerk-treasurer Pat Casserly.

"We're being conservative and looking at our expenses every month," she assured him. "At our last planning session we looked out three years instead of just one. We believe we have been aggressive and are doing the best we can."

Wagoner added, "We can't run in the red on utilities, we have to meet state requirements. We flat-lined the general fund for the last two years and we're economizing where we can."

"We're going to need a lot of good ideas as we move forward," he said.

"We saw it coming and held the line."

Casserly said that the town has received \$2.1 million in grant funds since 1998-99 which has helped the town fund needed projects. "We're very, very fortunate in what we have been able to receive," she said. "Ken (Smith) has been very helpful."

Susan KLeckner and Barb Rude on behalf of the Youth/Ball Parade committee were given permission to close certain streets and use gators and four-wheelers on the street during the June 6 parade.

The council met recently and interviewed three architect/engineer finalists for the Downtown Revitalization Project. Ken Smith of Municipal Civil was chosen.

A sewage adjustment was granted to Donnie and Mandy Hughes and a water adjustment to Tracy Dillon.

The library was given permission to use the town truck during its clean-up day on March 26.

Bagged leaves (no trash) will be picked up. Residents can stack tree limbs by the road and call the town office for pick up.

The next council meeting will be held at 7 p.m. April 9 at the library.

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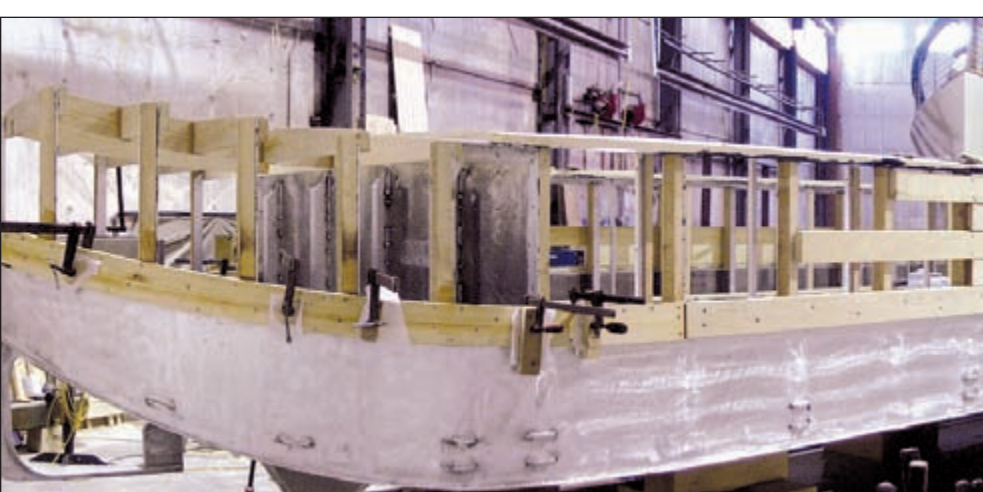
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 The Scarano boat company in Albany, N.Y., is building this replica canal boat for the Canal Association. It is 54 feet long. In late April, two canal board members will go to N.Y. for the "sea trial" of the boat. It is scheduled to arrive in Delphi in about two and a half months. Photo provided by Scarano Boatbuilding

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