



PS-11

Raising funds for K-9 capability

The K-9 officer in the Lititz borough, Pennsylvania (9,000), police department is supported entirely by private funding. Because the department's current police dog is ready to retire, the department has raised approximately \$14,000 to purchase a new dog and pay for insurance, the officer's uniforms, and maintenance of the vehicle that transports the animal (the vehicle was donated by the borough). The department raises the money through annual chicken barbecue sales, as well as donations from individuals and businesses. The current dog is trained in narcotics detection and tracking. He has conducted drug searches at the local high school and is available to track thieves and lost children. But perhaps 90 percent of the dog's job is in community relations; the department has found that people are much more likely to approach an officer when that officer has a dog. The dog also participates in antidrug classes for schoolchildren.

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