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PULASKI COUNTY

Accused waives formal arraignment

Additional felony charges filed in Phelps against FLW, S&T gunman

Shannon Beck
Staff Writer

The man accused of shooting at officers from Pulaski and Phelps County during a high-speed pursuit that started at Fort Leonard Wood and ended on the campus of Missouri S&T on

May 12 waived his formal arraignment in Pulaski County on Wednesday.

Cody N. Wilcoxson, 21, of Southwest City, is facing two charges of class A felony assault on a law enforcement officer, two counts of felony armed criminal action, one count of felony resisting ar-

rest by fleeing and one count of unlawful possession of a firearm in Pulaski County.

In Phelps County, he is facing 20 additional felony charges.

Phelps County Prosecutor John Beger filed six of those charges within hours of the pursuit. Those original

charges are two counts each of armed criminal action, unlawful use of a weapon and first-degree assault on a law enforcement officer.

He recently filed additional charges of carrying a loaded firearm into a school, a class D felony; possession of methamphetamine, a

class C felony; unlawful possession of a firearm, a class C felony; first-degree burglary, a class B felony; tampering with a motor vehicle, a class C felony; five additional counts of first-degree assault on a law enforcement officer, a class A felony and three additional charges of

armed criminal action, an unclassified felony.

Wilcoxson is scheduled for formal arraignment in Phelps County Circuit Court today.

Beger anticipates that Wilcoxson will waive his right to formal arraignment there as well.

COMMUNITY

Pound practices questioned

Editor's note: This is the fourth in a series on the operation at the Richland pound.

Natalie Sanders
Staff Writer

There are a number of issues brought to the Daily Guide's attention by members of the public in reference to the Richland pound.

Those concerns include notification of the owners of impounded dogs, how dogs are impounded, and the length of time dogs are incarcerated.

The Daily Guide visited the pound in December to confirm the presence of a Rottweiler female with a collar and an owner-purchased rabies tag.

The Rottweiler, Bella, was impounded on Friday, Dec. 17 sometime before 2:30.

Bella had a rabies tag issued to her from Tri-County Veterinary Clinic.

The Daily Guide called Richland City Hall to ask if attempts had been made to locate any owners of dogs that are impounded.

"We wait for them to contact us" was the response.

The Daily Guide called Tri-County Veterinary Clinic and obtained the name, address and phone number of Bella's owner in less than two minutes. Tri-County was where Bella had received her rabies shots and tag.

The Daily Guide contacted Ashley Weems, owner of Bella, late Monday afternoon, Dec. 20 and informed her that her dog had been impounded.

Weems confirmed that she had not been contacted by any city officials. Tri-County Veterinary Clinic also confirmed that no one else had called enquiring about Bella.

The fees, according to Weems, are \$25 for impound and \$4 a day.

Weems' total bill was \$41 for four days.



Getting Bella's owner's name and contact information took the Daily Guide less than two minutes because she had her rabies tag from Tri-County Veterinary Clinic.

PHOTO BY NATALIE SANDERS

The Daily Guide has been unable to confirm the charges despite phone calls and emails to former city administrator Anita Ivy and former Richland Mayor Bob Wall and current Mayor Lucy Hensen.

Richland is only required by the state to hold dogs for five days before destroying them.

Richland does not adopt out the dogs and is not required to, according to state law.

Richland is also not required to notify citizens if their dog is impounded. However it is common practice to do so among other area pounds and shelters, in an effort to save dogs from being destroyed or adopted away from loving homes, noted workers at those facilities.

Waynesville Animal Shelter Administrator Billy Jean Walker told the Daily Guide,

"We pray for that," in reference to chips or tags on a dog.

Waynesville Animal Shelter makes it a policy to attempt to contact owners by scanning all animals for chips and calling anytime a dog has a tag of some kind, Walker said.

St. Robert and Dixon also make it a practice to try to notify owners as well they said, when contacted.

The Pulaski County Humane Society also makes every effort to locate owners when identification tags or chips are present and have offered to do this for the Richland pound free of charge, said a PCHS volunteer.

The city severed all ties with PCHS in July 2010.

PCHS volunteer Karin Gann did tell the Daily Guide that occasionally police officers who have had to impound a dog will attempt

to locate owners if a dog has a tag.

Another concern of citizens they said is the lack of a policy concerning how animals are impounded.

A dog can enter Richland pound in a couple of ways.

According to PCHS volunteers and several citizens who contacted the Guide, some are impounded by the police from complaint phone calls, but there are some that are just dropped off inside the kennels by unknown people.

The kennels of the pound are not locked unless a dog is inside them, enabling anyone to put a dog inside the empty ones.

According to PCHS volunteers, they claim the pound is not closely monitored, there is not an attendant on duty there, and a city employee only comes

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COMMUNITY

Funds raised for Autism Speaks



Marj Barbosa sings at the Autism Speaks gospel event Saturday in the Waynesville City Park. PHOTO BY MADELEINE LEROUX

Madeleine Leroux
Staff Writer

Several families braved the heat Saturday to hear gospel music and raise money for Autism Speaks.

The event, held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday in the Waynesville City park, featured several gospel performances and sought to raise funds for Autism Speaks, an organization that funds research and education for autism spectrum disorders.

Marj Barbosa, organizer of the event, said some people were unable to attend due to a heat advisory that was in effect in Pulaski County on Saturday. Barbosa said she hopes to not have that problem in the future, changing the date of the event to happen in April next year.

Barbosa said even though the heat was on, people still came out to enjoy the music and food. Barbosa said 25 local businesses donated as well, providing prizes for raffle tickets. Overall, Barbosa

said \$328 was raised for Autism Speaks.

"It went pretty well," Barbosa said.

Barbosa said she began the event to help funding for autism spectrum research and education after her son, Anthony, 15, was diagnosed with autism last year.

"We knew something was going on, we didn't know what," Barbosa said.

Barbosa said she got involved with the organization after meeting other families dealing with autism spectrum disorders. Barbosa said she chose gospel music because of its emphasis on faith.

"If you bring the Lord into it, miracles can happen," Barbosa said.

Barbosa said she was thankful to the volunteers and community who came together to help put on the event and who have committed themselves to help with future events as well.

"They just amazed me with all the support they did," Barbosa said.

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MOST-VIEWED STORIES

Our readers' top three favorite stories online:

- New Unclaimed Property records set: 120,000 accounts containing \$36 million returned by Treasurer Clint Zweifel
- Lebanon dominates Lineman Challenge
- State wide sobriety checkpoints

COMING TOMORROW



« **COST OF LIVING COMPARISON - PART 3**
What is causing the inflation of the real estate market? Get the facts in Friday's edition of the Daily Guide.

DEATHS

■ Stephen Lee Hutinet, 52, of Greenwood.



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