



Oct.
28

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Warren County Opens Police K-9 Training Facility

By Art Charlton

(FRANKLIN TWP., NJ – Nov. 1, 2025) Police K-9 teams in Warren County now have a nearby place to practice, after the Warren County Board of County Commissioners cut the ribbon to open a county Law Enforcement K-9 Training Facility.

The training center located at the Warren County Public Safety building was developed by the Warren County Police Chiefs Association after the Commissioners agreed last year to authorize space for the project.

"This is ideal," Washington Township Police Chief Christopher M. Jones said, noting the county's police departments have had to send their K-9 officer and dog teams to facilities as far as Union County for training.



In addition to a fenced area with various obstacles for the dogs to train and practice, the nearby buildings of the Warren County Fire Academy - including the burn tower with many rooms - and wooded areas of the property will offer additional scenarios for training, Jones said.

Currently, four police departments in Warren County have six dogs trained for various uses, including detecting drugs, guns and explosives, tracking suspects and finding people who are lost. Two of the dogs – "Goose" and "Lupe" from Washington Township Police – and their police partners demonstrated their skills for the Commissioners during the ribbon-cutting event.

"I was very impressed by the abilities of these incredible animals and the hard work and dedication of their handlers," Warren County Commissioner Director Jason J. Sarnoski said. "K-9 units are a vital part of police operations across Warren County and this facility will be a valuable resource officers can use to enhance their effectiveness in the field," Sarnoski added.

Commissioner Lori Ciesla noted, "By opening this center we are able to provide our K-9s and their trainers with a place to go close to home, as opposed to driving across the state to train."

Ciesla added that police dogs are "trained to find people, drugs and explosives in a manner humans cannot. They are very motivated to get their job done, and then play a good round of fetch after! Watching them work at the ribbon cutting was a pleasure and I hope they all enjoy their new training center."

"I'm grateful for the collaboration with Washington Township that will allow Warren County to host all our K-9 officers from across the county," Commissioner James R. Kern III said. "Providing our K-9 units with a dedicated, private training area will help reduce stress and travel time for both officers and their K-9 partners. I look forward to continued cooperation and teamwork within our law enforcement community," Kern added.

Stuff The Bus at Pen Argyl Area High School

By Krista Campbell

PEN ARGYL - Pen Argyl Area High School will be collecting food for Stuff the Bus, from Monday November 3rd through Friday November 21st at 7:00-7:30 am and 2:30-2:45 pm. (On the last day non-perishable items will only be collected until 7:30 am.) Students, families, and teachers throughout the district are invited to donate non-perishable items for people in need during the Thanksgiving season.

Additionally, local businesses and community members are encouraged to donate items, and in the past six years have donated plentifully. The school district works with Families First, meaning that all the food collected will be given to families in the Pen Argyl School District who need a little extra help to get through the holiday.



With the ongoing government shutdown and the recent ending of emergency food stamp benefits, more households than ever are facing empty pantries and tough choices at the grocery store. Every donation—big or small—helps to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry during this challenging time. The Knight's Order, the Character Education program at the Pen Argyl High School that organized the event, is responsible for service projects throughout the school and community.

The Knight's Order continually looks to give back to the community that has been so supportive of their other initiatives. The Character Education students put in hours of their time organizing and running this event. We would like to thank Krise Transportation for donating the bus for the event, and the YMCA for donating a space to organize and distribute the food. We hope every local family in need will be able to enjoy their Thanksgiving with an amazing meal.