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REDDI – The Regional Explosives Detection Dog Initiative

By Michael Ortoski

UPPER MT. BETHEL - The media was invited to attend the 20th Regional Explosives Detection Dog Initiative (REDDI) held at the Bangor Area Middle, this past Thursday. The Homeland Security Enterprise began these events in 2017 to advance the knowledge and capabilities of the nation's detective K-9 teams. Northampton County Executive Lamont McClure and the Northampton County Sheriff's Department were the host of the event.

The REDDI event included odor recognition trials, and effective maintenance training. The dogs and their handlers participated in several odor detection drills.

Deputy Stephen Tuxhorn and Boomer from the Northampton

County Sheriff's Department was in attendance. Boomer is a twoyear old Chocolate lab trained in explosive detection. He works at County buildings, checking packages in the mailroom, loading docks and other locations.

The Homeland Security Enterprise (HSE) maintains more than 4,000 explosives detection canine teams across the federal, state, local and tribal law enforcement community. There is a need for a centralized focal point within DHS to address mission requirements, conduct operationally relevant research, facilitate knowledge sharing, and act as a repository of expert advice on common problems across government, academia and the private sector.

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Repairing the 'Home Front' Mural

By Michael Ortoski / TGAI Board Member

BANGOR - Jim Gloria Dir. of Totts Gap Arts Institute (TGAI) along with two of his students started the repair work on their 'Home Front' Mural in down town Bangor this week.

The six year old mural depicting a parade thru the borough painted by students of TGAI has been deteriorating for the last three years due to moisture inside the basement and snow plows with salt spreading up against the building.

A coating of plaster has been put on and has to cure for a couple more days. During that time the students are preparing the drawing they will use to repaint the damaged area.

Gloria estimates it will take several weeks depending on weather to complete

MT. BETHEL ABSTRACT

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REDDI

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Canines are a demonstrated effective resource, but many of our nation's explosives detection canine teams have limited access to the latest knowledge on explosive threat odors. This could prevent them from realizing their full potential.

"This is an opportunity for S&T's Detection Canine Program to provide further outreach and assistance to the larger regional law enforcement canine community," said Don Roberts, S&T Program Manager. "It also provides participants, through demonstration and knowledge sharing, a venue to validate what they are doing right, and identify potential focus areas to strengthen the capabilities of their teams. At the same time, by observing trends, the program will gain additional insights on how to best meet the needs of the whole of the detection canine community."







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