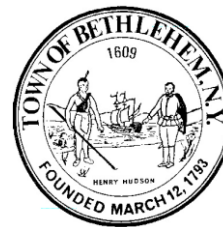


John H. Cunningham
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TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

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NEWS RELEASE

March 11, 2009

The Bethlehem Police Department along with the department's Animal Control Officer is currently investigating two cases of animal cruelty. As employees of the Town's Highway Department were removing debris located alongside the roadway they found two plastic bags, one black and one blue, which had dead dogs in them. The dogs had been left alongside Clapper Road and Weisheit Road in Selkirk. Due to the condition of the dogs, it appears they were left at different times. The dogs are both described as Beagles, one being a white and brown female and the second a tri-colored male. One of the dogs was brought to Five Rivers to be examined by NYS DEC Wildlife Pathologist, Ward Stone; in an attempt to determine the cause of death. Results indicate that trauma may have been the cause of death. The trauma is consistent with the dog being kicked to death. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Bethlehem Police Department at (518) 439-9973. Lieutenant Robert Berben may be reached for further comment.

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