



Schenectady man charged with killing pitbull puppy

By PAUL GRONDAHL, Staff writer

SCHENECTADY-- A 28-year-old city man was charged today with domestic violence menacing and aggravated cruelty to animals, a felony, for allegedly killing an 8-month-old pitbull puppy in a retaliatory rage.

"Heroic efforts were made to save the dog, but there was nothing that could be done and it had to be euthanized," said Dave Dean, an inspector with the Schenectady County SPCA.

The puppy's spinal cord had been severed in the attack. The knife was left in the animal, Dean said.

After a prolonged manhunt, Kenya Latee Bunch was arrested early this morning at the Lawrence Motel at 2155 Central Ave. and charged in connection with a Feb. 20 knife attack on the puppy at 302 Victory Ave. in the city, authorities said.

"It seems like a classic domestic violence case of maiming or killing the animal to get back at the person," Dean said.

Police previously responded to a call on Feb. 11 to the Victory Avenue address. A woman whom authorities have not identified filed a domestic violence complaint against Bunch. After their investigation, police issued a warrant for Bunch's arrest on a charge of domestic violence menacing.

The U.S. Marshals joined police and the SPCA in the investigation and manhunt. Authorities will discuss the case in greater detail at an afternoon news conference today at police headquarters.

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