

My Two Cent's Worth

By: Joseph Andalina

Can't have an opinion

News flash: A Decatur police detective commented to a local newspaper that some drug sniffing dogs would have to be euthanized if marijuana is legalized. He felt the animals would have to be put down because they can't be retrained.

So it's reported that the police chief, after seeing this comment, "was left scratching his head and apologizing." Really? Apologizing for his detective's opinion on a matter which could ultimately prove correct? Why does everyone feel the need to apologize for everything? What did the detective say that was so terrible?

The chief said the detective used a bad choice of words and wishes he didn't say it. What was he supposed to say? That Lassie was going to see Rin Tin Tin in doggie heaven? Of course, after seeing his boss scratch his head and apologize, the detective could see he might have a problem.

An article in the Tribune reports that "experts" in the wake of the detective's remark have dismissed the assertion of euthanasia for these drug dogs. I guess the article has significance as the story confronts the issue that the role of these dogs may change if the deadly weed actually is legalized.

Other experts say that it may be difficult and costly to retrain these dogs, but it can be accomplished by withholding rewards (treats, affection) so the doggie knows sniffing out some Columbian Gold will not yield a positive result.

But what I find interesting was one expert's statement that there was no reason for any dogs to be euthanized because the plant that makes you fly would be legalized. That's extreme, he says, and it's almost like the officer was trying to coerce the people who are going to be voting on the proposed law.

Now I'm scratching my head on such a ridiculous comment. It's obvious that you shouldn't give an opinion that may be construed as anti-cannabis legislation, according to the experts. My, how the world has turned.

Vita é bella.