

She continued, "We started the search pattern behind a residence where officers last seen the suspect."

Cindy Daniels and her dog Sable actually found Robinson who was hiding in some bushes. This is Cindy and Sable's first find as a team.

Mrs. Daniels has been working with her dog Sable for approximately 12 weeks. She has put in hundreds of hours in training over the past three years.

"Doug and Cindy both have had hundreds of hours of training. They have trained in search and rescue as well as criminal searches," said Buccafurno.

She continued, "What we came upon, when we began the search, were two areas that had heavy overgrowth. What I decided to do was hold the dogs to the right and myself, chief (Michael) Echols and officer (Nicole) Griffin went to the left to check that area... When we did that, Cindy's dog began to pull her to the right and became extremely excited."

"Cindy has learned to read her dog. She began to look in the area that her dog was pulling her and she saw the suspect begin to crawl out from under a bush," said Buccafurno.

Mrs. Daniels maintained her position and alerted the officers that she had found the suspect.

"During their training they are taught to maintain their position and let the officers know, and that is exactly what both of them did," Buccafurno said.

The officers jumped a fence and arrested the suspect.

"We are very happy for Cindy and Sable," said Buccafurno.

"Sable tracks with a sent article or without a sent article (freshest human sent). Both dogs scented off the seat of the vehicle," said Mrs. Daniels.

She continued, "When she scented she couldn't have told me any better, everything changed about her when she spotted the suspect... I did not want the suspect to know we knew



Courtesy Photo

Doug and Cindy Daniels, Van Zandt County Sheriff's Posse, were instrumental in locating an armed robbery suspect that fled and was hiding in Wills Point on July 28. Mr. Daniels is pictured with his dog Molly.

where he was until the officers knew his location. With these dogs the bad guy may run but they are not going to get away. I am proud of my dog; she stepped up to the plate. This is a reward for all the hard work."

Currently there are four handlers and six K-9's, and several others that are currently in training.

"The K-9 group that we have consists of narcotics, patrol, tracking and search, and rescue. This particular blood line of Shepherds that we have originate from Czechoslovakia and the original dog (Zeus) was trained in Holland... It has turned out to be an excellent line of Shepherds that has done excellent work for the county," said Buccafurno. "... We put in hundreds of hour of training and that is what it takes to be successful. It takes dedication and weekly training to get to a level of expertise that both have right now (Cindy and Doug Daniels)."

"The bloodhounds do the

tracking and the German Shepherds also track, but they are more sensitive to their surroundings. And we often take the German Shepherd behind the bloodhound and switch if we have to. Her (Cindy's) dog alerted on the suspect," said Mr. Daniels.

Buccafurno closed by saying, "The bottom line is to get the criminal off the street... The trooper did an excellent job in getting the first suspect. The K-9 units did an excellent job at sealing the fate of the second suspect," Buccafurno said. "... I am very proud of them (Doug and Cindy) for all the hours of hard work they have put in. Everyone worked together; Wills Point PD did a good job. The law enforcement in this area has learned how to work with the K-9's. They know that they have to let us know where they last saw the suspect and where the officers were last. Wills Point did an excellent job. We all worked together and it came together in the end."