

1/26/09

Greetings, my name is Lisa Duggan and I live on Dryden Road in Ithaca. I am the Coordinator for the Hunger Program Friendship Donations Network that serves Tompkins County and 6 surrounding counties.

Last time I spoke of the toxic pesticides our deer who, unlike wild deer, are ingesting from consuming plants in residential areas and how these pesticides differ from those pesticides used in agriculture that are regulated for human consumption. I also spoke of the concern raised by those in favor of the bait and shoot program that our deer may be infected with Chronic Wasting Disease and the obvious danger of feeding deer with CWD to the poor.

Now I would like to bring up the issue of lead contamination caused by the non-ricocheting bullets set to be used in this proposed program. As stated by Bismarck North Dakota's Dr. Comatzer, an avid big game hunter himself, when the bullet hits the deer, it sends little bits of shrapnel-type lead that are almost liquid at that point because of the speed the bullet is going.. He states that the impact is enough to scatter the deadly toxin through the entire animal. After putting 100 pounds of venison from dozens of different sources into a CT Scan, he found 60% to have High levels of lead.

North Dakota, Minnesota and states all over the mid-west have pulled thousands of pounds of venison off of the shelves of pantries given this discovery. We all know of the mandatory removal of paint containing lead from schools, homes and playgrounds because of the grave health risks. More recently there has been the recall of all toys imported from china that may contain lead. Dr Comatzer notes that "Its been shown that children under five that ingest even a small amount of lead will have **permanent brain damage**". He states that lead is enough to cause all sorts of disorders, even **death** and is not meant to go into our bodies, not even in miniscule amounts.

I see in the Ithaca Journal that you still tout donating meat as a charitable service, despite not having addressed at all the facts brought forth about toxic pesticides and Chronic Wasting Disease that's been alleged that our deer may have and is a reason to promote the bait and shoot program.

I ask if you or anyone in this room would even consider feeding your own children or families meat that could possibly be infected with Chronic Wasting Disease, or most certainly contaminated with toxic pesticides not meant for human consumption, that is not USDA inspected and that is contaminated with lead that is a known toxin that can cause brain damage and death? Is that what you would serve for dinner to your loved ones? Please do not be fooled into believing feeding poisonous food to the poor is a charitable act and join me in opposition to this bait and shoot program by our local officials or a hired group like White Buffalo.

If you truly want to help feed the poor, consider Safe Alternatives such as donating food from area markets and farms, having a food drive or donating your time or money to area pantries, kitchens and hunger programs. Thank you.

Lisa C. Duggan, Coordinator for the Friendship Donations Network, Ithaca, NY 14850.