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Relay difficulties cause delay in weather siren testing

Problems with electrical relays caused problems in Saturday's testing of new severe weather sirens.

The test, which was to begin at 1 p.m., was delayed due to the problem. The siren at West Elm and Fifth Ave., was manually sounded at about 1:15 p.m., followed several minutes later by the one on Fourth St. between Main and Seminary.

However, the relay problem was rectified and the sirens sounded with the push of a button at the police department, said Earl Drollinger, local Emergency Ser-

vices and Disaster Agency coordinator.

The warning sirens are now set to sound a three-minute, steady blast in the event of a tornado, he said. Each siren is expected to be heard one mile from its location.

Reaction to the sirens was mixed among residents. Some said the warnings were loud while others said they sounded like a leaf blower or router going off the in the neighborhood. "I thought my neighbor was working on his house," one woman said.

Fancy finery

Models from Bridal Veil & Tux of Danville display prom and wedding fashions at the WHPO Bridal and Prom Show Sunday at the McFerren Park Civic Center. This was the first year for the show, which also included displays by area jewelry and gift stores, DJs, caterers, photographers and other businesses geared to weddings and other formal occasions.

Photo by Lourdine Florek



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Briefly

Multi Agency van schedule

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency transportation project is: Monday, office closed; Tuesday, Lafayette, Ind. (leave at 9 a.m.); Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville.

For more information or to arrange a ride, call the Multi Agency at (217) 283-5544.

Community center activities include: Monday, office closed; Tuesday, ladies euchre, noon; Thursday, men's coffee, 9:30 a.m., men's euchre, noon; Friday, ladies cards, noon.

Sweetheart Banquet

The 11th annual senior citizen Sweetheart Banquet will be held at 12:30 p.m. Feb. 14 in the Hoopeston Area High School gym.

Any Hoopeston Area senior citizen who wants to attend is asked to call (217) 283-6668 to make a reservation on or before Feb. 4.

Rules of the Road

A free Rules of the Road review course will be held from 1-3 p.m. Friday, Feb 8 at the Hoopeston city hall conference room. For more information, call 283-5833.

State rep to speak

State Rep. Dan Rutherford of Pontiac will be in Hoopeston Saturday, Feb. 2 to meet with community members to discuss his run for state Senator of the newly formed 53rd District.

Rutherford will meet with local officials and a tour of Hoopeston Regional Health Center at 11:30 a.m. He will be available at 1 p.m. to meet with area residents at the Charlotte Ann Russell Medical Center. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Charlene Drawdy at (217) 283-4243.

Obituaries

BIRD—Donald Chester Bird, 83, of Hoopeston, died at 2 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 24, 2002 at 515 E. Washington St., Hoopeston. Funeral services were at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial was in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation was 5-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Antioch Church of Christ, Rossville.

Quit smoking

The Vermilion County Health Department is sponsoring free adult tobacco cessation classes during February. Classes are free to anyone living in Vermilion County who is 18 or older. Classes last four weeks.

Classes will be held in Hoopeston from 5:30-7 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 11, 18, 25 and Mar. 4 at 847 E. Orange.

For more information, call (217) 431-2662, ext. 302 or 241.

Neighborhood Watch

Judge Claudia Anderson will be the featured speaker at the Hoopeston Police Department's Neighborhood Watch program Feb. 4. She will speak on juvenile issues and problems facing Hoopeston and Vermilion County.

The program will be held at 6 p.m. at Country Terrace.

Social service focus groups

Hoopeston residents may take part in a Vermilion County needs assessment survey of the county's social services.

Focus groups will meet at the Hoopeston Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave., at 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday. Senior citizens and other adults are asked to come to the first session and Teen Reach parents and kids to the second session.

Farmers' Luncheon

Dr. John Peverly of the University of Illinois will be

Clarification

Osman Isbishi, of Merita's Family Restaurant, said last week water problems at his restaurant were not caused by a pop machine but by village water lines.

Police News



A **44-year-old** woman reported Saturday that someone took a boy's 20' Dyno bicycle from an unlocked shed in the 500 block of East McNeil.

Weather



Partly sunny today. High 58. Tonight, cloudy. Low 35. Tomorrow, chance of light rain. High 35, low 33.

For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston Weather Line** at (217) 283-6221.

the featured speaker at the 16th annual Rotary Farmers' Luncheon at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5.

Complementary tickets for the luncheon are available at: AG Venture, Arend Bros., Bank of Rossville, Beck Superior Hybrids, Birkey's, CI Ag, Community Bank, Cox Farm Drainage, Crop Production Services, Hoopeston Area Healthcare, Hoopeston Fertilizer and Hoopeston Regional Health Center.

Also, Illini FS, Iroquois Federal Savings and Loan, JB Spreader Inc., Kankakee Federal Savings Bank, Kaufman Grain, Layden Products, Old National Bank, Performance Diesel, Steiner Farm Drainage, Tabor Grain and Voyles Construction and Drainage

Meetings

- Hoopeston civic improvement committee, 8 a.m. Tuesday, to discuss the 2002-03 budget.
- Hoopeston police committee, 5 p.m. Tuesday to discuss the 2002-03 budget.

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Home to be auctioned. 640 E. McCracken. 2 bedrooms, new windows, sound roof, 65'x 165' lot, 31'x41' garage, good neighborhood. Sat., Feb. 2, 10:30 a.m. DeWitt Auction Co., Hoopeston. Bill DeWitt #040000372. Call for showing, (217) 283-7161. 23-32

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