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**Tuesday, February 10, 2003**

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

**P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942**

**www.justthefacts.net**

## Former resident plays 'Hoaks' on Galena, Kansas officials

A former Hoopeston resident who has often posed as a teenaged boy is facing criminal charges for doing it again.

Birdie Jo Hoaks, 33, was charged Feb. 4 with five counts of making a false writing after she allegedly passed herself off as a 13-year-old boy in Galena, Kan. Bond was set at \$100,000, according to the Wichita (Kansas) Eagle.

A Wichita television station, KAKE - ABC, reported Feb. 6 that Hoaks' twin, Becky Jo, was also arrested, charged with the same felonies, with the same bond, after posing as Birdie Jo's legal guardian.

Additionally, another ABC affiliate, KODE of Joplin, Mo., reported that Birdie Jo is charged with theft of services from the Galena School District.

The twins allegedly waived extradition from Jasper County, Mo., to face charges in Cherokee County, Kan.

According to the published report, Birdie Jo, posing as "Chris Gomez," tried to enroll in middle school and got a free eye exam and glasses from a Galena optometrist.

The former Hoopeston resident - and mother of three - attended church services in the town, having dinner with a pastor, who gave Hoaks money to purchase clothing, the newspaper said.



**Birdie Jo and Becky Jo Hoaks make an appearance in a Kansas courtroom last week.**

*Photo courtesy KODE-TV*

Hoaks reportedly told the pastor that she was a woman. He, in turn, reported her to authorities who found her living in an apartment with what the paper said were her toddler son, Becky Jo, their mother and stepfather.

This is not the first time Birdie Jo Hoaks has posed as a boy or gotten caught. The woman has pulled the same hoax in approximately 14 states over the last 10 years. This is her second foray into Kansas. In late 1992 and early 1993, Hoaks posed as a boy in Wichita.

Newspapers throughout the country have followed her exploits and Hoaks was also featured on a segment on *Dateline NBC* in September 1998.

## PRICE-LESS FOODS

### DAILY DELI SPECIALS

MONDAY: Lasagna or Spaghetti \$2.99

TUESDAY: Beef or Chicken &

Noodles \$2.99

WEDNESDAY: Meat Loaf \$2.99

THURSDAY: Italian Beef \$3.99

FRIDAY: Catfish or Codfish \$2.99

**Each dinner comes with 2 sides\***

Hot sides: Macaroni & Cheese, Pasta Medley, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Broccoli & Cauliflower w/Cheese, Green Beans, Cobblers, Mushrooms, Potato Wedges, Cheese Sticks, Mini Tacos, Onion Rings, Popovers, Mini Corn Dogs, Baked Beans, Breadsticks.

**\*Hot sides vary daily**

Cold Sides: Potato Salad (American, Mustard, Amish or Grandma's), Cole Slaw, Macaroni Salad, Kidney Bean Salad, Fruit Salad, Sunset Salad, Hawaiian Salad, Pistachio or Tapioca Pudding

**Soup of the Day \$2.99/lb.**

MONDAY: Cream of Potato

TUESDAY: Cream of Potato or Broccoli

WEDNESDAY: Cream of Broccoli

THURSDAY: Chili

FRIDAY: Clam Chowder

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Open Sundays






Hoopeston Women's Bowling League

1/26/04

1. Henning's	59	25
2. R&R Body Shop	56	28
3. Weber's Drugs	53	31
4. Royal Bs	46	38
5. Yaden-Rethelford	45	39
6. BJ's Pump	45	39
7. Adda Girls	45	39
8. Family Circus	37	47
9. Off the Wall	37	47
10. Unger's Jewelry	36	48
11. Gillins Oil	33	51
12. Bye	12	72

High Team Handicap Game: Gillins Oil 1,062, Yaden-



Bowling Scores

Rethelford 1,044, Royal Bs 1,0427; **High Team Handicap Series:** Royal Bs 3,030, Weber's Drug 2,984, Gillins Oil 2,983; **High Individual Scratch Game:** Patti Lowe 223, Candis Clayborn 212, Glenda Reed 205; **High Individual Scratch Series:** Candis Clayborn 609, Glenda Reed 602, Patti Lowe 585.

Thursday Night City Men's League

2/5/04

1. Pla-Mor Lanes	84	49
2. Team America	82	51
3. Con Agra Store Foods	80	53
4. Lazer-N-Lights	79	54
5. Tax Service Plus	73	60
6. Lawson Products	70	63
7. P.V. Snow Removal	50	83


8. Team 8

5


128

High Team Handicap Game: Lazer-N-Lights 902, Lawson Products 902, Con Agra Store Foods 872; **High Team Handicap Series:** Lawson Products 2,595, Lazer-N-Lights 2,592, Con Agra Store Foods 2,540; **High Individual Scratch Game:** Jerry Smith 257, Ed Green 247, Chad Thomas 245; **High Individual Scratch Series:** Ron Cappellano 674, Chad Thomas 646, Jerry Smith 621.

Hall of Shame: Rodney Ramos 107.



Police News



A city parks department employee reported Friday that someone spray-painted the Lions Club stand at McFerren Park.

Michael A. Abbott, 34, of 512 E. Thompson, was arrested at 4:58 p.m. Saturday at West Penn and South Dixie Hwy.


Abbott, wanted on a Vermilion County warrant,

was released on \$300 cash bond.

Elvira Antuna, 25, of 703 W. Washington, was ticketed for operating an uninsured motor vehicle after an accident at 12:10 p.m. Sunday.

Police said Antuna, in a 2000 Ford, backed from her driveway and hit a parked 1995 Pontiac owned by Ashley B. Shields of Hoopeston.

New Books at the Library

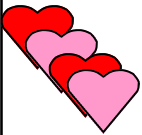


Non-fiction:

Melodies Unheard: Essays on the Mysteries of Poetry by Anthony Hecht

Coming of Age as a Poet: Milton, Keats, Eliot, Plath by Helen Hennessy Vendler

Mr. Excel on Excel by Bill Jelen



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Weather



Chance of flurries today. High 30. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 16. Tomorrow, chance of flurries then partly cloudy. High 30, low 18.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

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Letter to the Editor



Warning of identity theft scam

Editor,

After receiving the following warning, I'm afraid to register for anything on-line.

"Just wanted to let you know that there is a hoax e-mail being sent to people saying that their money in the bank is not insured by the FDIC because of some homeland security thing. They are asking people to log-on to a website to provide information so their money will become insured again. It is a hoax website, but it looks like the FDIC website. It is a way for someone to steal identities. My bank's website posted a warning."

Vera Crozier

Hoopeston, Ill.

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2 bdr. House for rent at 321 Front St., Hoopeston. \$350 mo./\$350 deposit. Call (217) 748-6354. 28-41

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