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Appointments

Lourdine Florek owner/publisher

# Just the Facts®

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publish@justthefacts.net

## Wednesday, February 11, 2004

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# New voting machines to be explained, demonstrated Friday

Hoopeston area voters will get a chance to test drive new voting machines that will be used in the March 16 primary.

County Clerk Lynn Foster will be at St. Anthony's parish hall Friday for judges training and then to show the public how to operate the voting machines.

Judges' training will be held from 2-4 p.m., followed by the presentation to the public, elected officials "and anybody else who wants to come," from 4:30-5:30 p.m., Foster said.

Foster is holding the training sessions to avoid problems with voters casting ballots on election day.

## **Insurance agent awarded**

Agent Jeff Stipp of Hoopeston has earned the prestigious AFLIC award from American Family Insurance. He joins a select group of agents who distinguished themselves in 2003 through outstanding sales of life insurance products offered by the company's subsidiary, American Family Life Insurance Company.



**STIPP** 

Stipp has been an agent for American Family since November 2002. His office is located at 711 N. Gilbert, Danville.

"This is a tremendous honor for Jeff but not surprising when you consider the emphasis he places on relationships," said Jan Hobbs, company district sales manager. "He takes the time to listen and work with his customers to make sure they understand their insurance options and how each fits their unique needs."

"This new technology is voter-friendly and very exciting," Foster said. "Voters, elected officials and election judges from all over Illinois have told me how much they like it. "I'm looking forward to sharing with Vermilion County voters."

For more information, call (217) 554-1908.

# **Briefly**

#### **Lincoln presentation**

Kathy Marlatt's class will give a presentation of "The Ballad of Abraham Lincoln" at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Hoopeston Public Library Children's Room. Everyone is invited to attend.

#### Stress workshop set

"The Kids are Driving Me Crazy," a stress workshop for parents, will be presented at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 2 at the Hoopeston Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave.

Topics to be covered include "What is stress," "What stresses you," "Where do you get your energy," and "Ways to reduce stress."

Reservations may be made by calling (217) 283-5544.

#### **Tiny Tots**

"Valentine's Day" is the theme of this week's Tiny Tots story program at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room.

Tiny Tots meets at 10:30 a.m. Fridays and 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and is for children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

#### **Meetings**

Hoopeston City Council, informational meeting, 7 p.m. Wednesday, city hall. Representatives will discuss the benefits of broadband.

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# DACC coach John Spezia to be inducted into Illinois Basketball Hall of Fame in April

The Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Board of Directors has selected Danville Area Community College's Men's Basketball Coach John Spezia as an inductee into the Illinois Basketball Hall of Fame. Coach Spezia is in his 20th year coaching the Danville Jaguars. His reign began during the 1982-83 basketball season when he took over a program that was coming off three straight losing seasons, and that also had no scholarships or booster club support. His time at DACC has led to fifteen winning seasons, twenty-two tournament championships, two conference championships, six region championships, one sectional championship, two seventh place finishes in the NJCAA Division II National Tournament, second, third, and fourth place finished in the National Tournament, and a NJCAA Division II National Championship in 1991. Now DACC has 12 tuition scholarships and an active booster club with over 100 members. He has also helped more than 80 of his players receive scholarships to four-year schools, 12 of those going on to Division I schools. Since his return to DACC, his teams have been known for their shooting skills and defensive play. In his twenty years as head coach at DACC, his teams have averaged 50.2% from the field with an average of 39.1% from behind the three point line and 71.2% from the free throw line. He has a 369-274 career record with Danville.

Spezia graduated from Bismarck-Henning High School. While there, he earned 10 varsity letters in football, basketball, baseball, and track. In his senior year, he helped lead the Blue Devils to a regional and sectional championship—the best finish in the state tournament by a Bismarck team.

Spezia attended Danville Area Community College as a student athlete from 1968-1970. He got his first coaching job, after he graduated from Eureka College, in 1973 at Sheldon High School in Sheldon. He was an assistant basketball and baseball coach for two years. From Sheldon he went to North Judson, Indiana as the freshman football coach and as assistant boys basketball and basketball coach. In his second year at North Judson, he was named the varsity basketball head coach. His team went 11 and 11. After two years at North Judson, he attended Valparaiso University where he spent three years as a graduate assistant coach while completing his Master's Degree in Psychology.

After his graduate work, Coach Spezia made a return to Sheldon High School for two years as athletic director and as head boy's basketball and baseball coach. Although his basketball team did not have a starter over six feet tall, his two-year record was 25 and 20 while holding opponents to an average of 54 points per game. In 1983 he began his career at DACC, and in 1989 also took over responsibilities as athletic director.

One of his biggest accomplishments coaching outside of DACC was being selected by USA Basketball to be the assistant coach for the north team in 1994. He coached beside the former University of Wisconsin basketball coach and now general manager of the Vancouver Grizzlies, Stu Jackson.

Besides fulfilling his coaching duties, Spezia took a select basketball team to tour Italy in the summer of 2001. He was responsible for organizing the Caribbean Splash Basketball Tournament in Antigua. Coach Spe-

#### **Police News**



**Crystal A. Townsend,** 38, of #23 Parkview Court, was arrested at 12:40 p.m. Monday at Parkview Court. Townsend, wanted on an Iroquois County warrant for contempt of court, was released on \$500 cash

#### Weather



Mostly cloudy today. High 35. Tonight, chance of flurries. Low 22. Thursday, partly cloudy. High 26, low 16.
For current weather conditions, call **Hoopeston Weather Service**, (217) 283-6221.

zia has also assisted at numerous summer camps throughout the country. Among his involvement, he is President of Hoopmaker Shooting Camps and Clinics. Over 2,000 campers have participated in his camps.

The IBCA Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be held Saturday, April 24 at Illinois State University Union Ballroom, Normal. Doors open at 5:15 p.m. with dinner being served at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$25.

For more information, call 217-443-8807

# Hoopeston American Legion opens at Noon Sunday SPECIAL -

40¢ Wings

\$1.50

# **Classifieds**

#### HOUSES FOR RENT

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

28-41

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#### VEHICLES FOR SALE

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