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104-year-old organization disbands, merges with Watseka

After 104 years, Hoopeston's Order of the Eastern Star has closed.

Members met Thursday at the Masonic Lodge for a farewell dinner and closing ceremony. The group is affiliated with the Masonry but unlike that organization, has both men and women as mem-

bers.

Hoopeston Chapter 448 was formed in 1900 and some of its members have gone on to hold state office in the Order. Russell D. Olson was Worthy Grand Patron in 1983; Peggy Anderson was Grand Electra in 1985; Kathy Butterworth was Grand



Members of the Hoopeston Order of the Eastern Star who attended Thursday's dinner and ceremony to close the chapter included, front from left, Lela Davis, Betty Yeats, Martha Smith, Frances Long; Carol Hicks, Don Lan, Stephen Eyrich, Holly Eyrich, Evelyn Martin, Marijo Lane, Helen Butterworth; Eileen McCord, Kathy Butterworth; Betty Walker, Alvin Walker, Richard Martin; Jim Culbert, Robert Butterworth, Jean Lockhart, Lila Foster and Wilma Gholson.

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Briefly

Tiny Tots

Brown, Teddy and Panda Bears is the theme of this week's Tiny Tots story program at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room. Tiny Tots meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 10:30 a.m. Fridays and is for children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

Multi Agency van schedule

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency transportation project is: Monday, Hoopeston/Rossville shuttle; Tuesday, Merrillville, Ind., (leave at 8 a.m.); Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville. To arrange a ride, call the Multi

Agency at (217) 283 -5544.

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

Meetings

- Rossville village board, 7 p.m. Monday, village office.
- Rossville-Alvin school board, 7 p.m. Monday, high school library.
- Hoopeston city council, 7 p.m. Tuesday, city hall.

Police News

Jeremiah F. Smith, 24, of 837 E. Elm, was arrested at 6:32 p.m. Thursday in the 400 block of South Third St.

Smith, wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear, was released on \$459 cash bond.

A 26-year-old Hoopeston woman reported

Thursday that someone threw a brick through a window of her home in the 200 block of West Elm.

Jarod J. Heath, 20, of 404 McKibben, Rossville, turned himself in to police at 9:05 a.m. Friday.

Heath, wanted on a warrant for failure to appear, was released on \$47 cash bond.

James H. Mills, 22, of 321 S. Second Ave., turned himself in to police at 9:31 p.m. Friday.

See **ORGANIZATION** on other side

Organization continued from other side

Esther in 1998 and Anderson and Butterworth were also Grand Representatives, said Worthy Matron Holly Eyrich.

At the dinner, members reminisced about activities the group has had, including gun clubs and Past Master's dinners and the 1993 fire that damaged the Masonic lodge, the Order's meeting home.

During its history, Order of the Eastern Star members have helped the community through contributions, including a scholarship for local high school seniors and through donations to the state and national organizations which fund charities including a cancer research project, arthritis fund, heart fund, Knights Templar, eye foundation, Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children, orphanages and many other charities.

The local Order will officially merge with the Watseka chapter in October; however some

Young, young at heart invited to Worldwide Day of Play

A children's television network is asking children of all ages to not be couch potatoes for one day.

Worldwide Day of Play, sponsored by Nickelodeon, will be held Saturday, Oct. 2, an encouragement to the young and young at heart to have some physical fun and a celebration of kids' fundamental right to play.

Locally, the Hoopeston Multi Agency, Hoopeston Junior Women's Club, Women Making a Difference and several other local organizations are sponsoring play time at McFerren Park.

From 10-11:30 a.m., the group will hold sack races, relay races, tug-of-war, tennis tournaments and other forms of play at the park. Women Making a Difference will offer free bingo in the park shelter and will have free snacks and drinks for all participants.

Area residents are invited to take part in the activities or just watch the children play.

For more information, call the Multi Agency

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AUCTIONS

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www.jonwitvoetauctioneer.com

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Obituaries

GADDIS - Lola I. Gaddis, 101 of Des Moines, Iowa, formerly of Hoopeston died at 4:45 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, 2004 at USA Healthcare in Urbandale, Iowa. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour before services at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 81. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 51. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 82, low 54.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopes-