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**Wednesday, January 11, 2006**

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

**www.justthefacts.net**

## Addition to Hoopeston Police Department has foreign flair

She's Italian, has pretty hair and is living with Hoopeston Police Officer Quentin Morgan.

She's not Sophia Loren, however. She is Rheia, the newest member of the Hoopeston Police Department.

Rheia is a Cane (pronounced "Connie") Corso, an Italian Mastiff who is Morgan's canine partner.

Morgan introduced the dog at Monday's Hoopeston

Neighborhood Watch meeting.

Morgan became interested in mastiffs through his wife, Lynn, a mastiff rescue volunteer. She, however, was unfamiliar with the breed. "When I told her, she said 'a Connie what?,' Morgan said.

He researched the breed, which is smaller and more agile than most mastiffs, and came upon Tom Hockett, an Ohio breeder. Morgan explained the department's finances and Hockett volunteered to donate a dog, valued at \$1,000 to \$2,000, to the department. "Out of the goodness of his heart...he told me he would donate Rheia to me, which was just an amazing gift," Morgan said.

Morgan traveled to Ohio to select his pup and chose his companion, the runt of the litter. "She was the most active," he said. Hockett, he said, used a broom to play with the pups. "Rheia wouldn't let the broom alone, which told me she had drive," Morgan said. "Of course now I can't keep a broom in my house."

Rheia - named after the goddess, Rheia, Zeus' mother - came to Hoopeston May 16 at seven and a half weeks old. At nine weeks, she and Morgan started obedience training with Vermilion County Sheriff's Deputy Chuck Leverich. Then Rheia was trained in narcotics detection and can locate marijuana, crack, cocaine, heroin and "most important for our town, methamphetamine," Morgan said, adding Rheia is one of few canines trained to detect meth.

Rheia may also be trained in other areas, such as finding missing children, but one area in which she won't be trained is bomb detection. "She scratches when she hits (on something)," Morgan said. "You wouldn't want her scratching a bomb."

Morgan and Rheia work the third shift, each in a bulletproof vest. When she's at work, Rheia is all business.

See FLAIR on other side



Hoopeston Police Officer Quentin Morgan and his canine partner, Rheia.

Look bare without  
Christmas decorations?  
Hanging baskets of ivy, fern,  
spiders, purple passion (Value \$15)  
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January 14th 2006  
Hoopeston Area Music Boosters  
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Featuring the Middle School and High  
School Show Choir & Jazz Bands.

This Annual Free-will Offering  
Fund-raiser Night will begin with a

**Spaghetti Dinner**

serving 4:30pm - 6pm

**Generation II Band**

playing 5pm - 6pm

**Main event**

starts at 6:30pm

**Great Food, Great Music at  
Hoopeston Area High School**



Bowling Scores



Thursday Afternoon Ladies League  
12/15/05

|                  | Won  | Lost |
|------------------|------|------|
| 1. Pla-Mor       | 25   | 17   |
| 2. Knuth's       | 23.5 | 18.5 |
| 3. Unger's       | 22   | 20   |
| 4. Bell Painting | 20   | 22   |
| 5. Carolyn's     | 18   | 24   |
| 6. Tooth Fairies | 17.5 | 24.5 |

High Team Handicap Game: Tooth Fairies 854, Bell

We're Cookin' Friday nights

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Painting 820, Pla-Mor 814; **High Team Handicap Series:** Tooth Fairies 2457, Pla-Mor 2383, Knuth's 2365; **High Individual Scratch Game:** Darlene Musk 189, Kathy Cox 188, Linda Van Burk 187; **High Individual Scratch Series:** Tammy Bertram 507, Linda Van Burk 506, Darlene Musk 494.

Thursday Night Men's City League  
12/15/05

|                             | Won | Lost |
|-----------------------------|-----|------|
| 1. Lawson Products          | 76  | 22   |
| 2. Ross Electric            | 70  | 28   |
| 3. Hooterville Broadcasting | 56  | 42   |
| 4. Tax Service Plus         | 52  | 46   |
| 5. Con-Agra Foods           | 49  | 49   |
| 6. Ballz Deep               | 47  | 51   |
| 7. Pla-Mor Lanes            | 47  | 51   |
| 8. U-Need Construction      | 45  | 53   |
| 9. Noble House Construction | 36  | 62   |
| 10. Bye                     | 12  | 86   |

High Team Handicap Game: Ross Electric 875, Hooterville Broadcasting 852, Tax Service Plus 848; **High Team Handicap Series:** Ross Electric 2545, U-Need Con-

Flair continued from other side

The ritual starts when Morgan is preparing for work. Rheia is kept away from him until he is ready. A pep talk comes next and then the duo is ready to roll. "She knows when she gets in the car, she has to have her game face on," he said.

Work is one thing. Home is something else entirely. "At home, she plays like a nine-month-old dog," Morgan said. "She demands a lot of attention." She is also good with the Morgans' three children.

Cane Corsos were originally Italian farm dogs. Their loyalty drew attention from the Italian military which began using them. Loyalty is a trait that the breed still has, being "extremely protective of their family, their master. The dogs "have the ability to detect a good heart

Police News



Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident reported Monday.

An unknown vehicle hit a parked 2003 Hyundai owned by Kristy Hurt of Danville. The accident occurred Sunday night or Monday morning in the 200 block of East Lincoln.

struction 2469, Hooterville Broadcasting 2455; **High Individual Scratch Game:** Mark Butterworth 266, Mike Dean 257, Jeremy Lane 232; **High Individual Scratch Series:** Mark Butterworth 729, ike Dean 667, Jeremy Lane 653; **Hall of Shame:** Phil Vines 111.

Hoopeston Women's Bowling League  
12/19/05

|                     | Won  | Lost |
|---------------------|------|------|
| 1) Olympic Hardware | 42   | 18   |
| 2) R&R Body Shop    | 41   | 19   |
| 3) Weber's          | 35.5 | 24.5 |
| 4) Adda Girls       | 34   | 26   |
| 5) Gillins Oil      | 31.5 | 28.5 |
| 6) Kratt            | 31   | 29   |
| 7) The Fubars       | 29   | 31   |
| 8) Unger's Jewelry  | 29   | 31   |
| 9) Ruby Nell's      | 21   | 39   |
| 10) Bye             | 6    | 54   |

High Team Handicap Game: Adda Girls 1069, Webers 1050 R&R Body Shop 1025; **High Team Handicap Series:** Webers 3020, Adda Girls 3002, Ruby Nell's 2983; **High Individual Scratch Game:** Glenda Reed 233, Can-

from a bad heart," he said.

Rheia currently weighs about 65 lbs. When full grown, she will weigh approximately 75-80 lbs. "She'll be more beefy than big," Morgan said.

While Hockett donated the dog, Morgan has donated all costs since getting Rheia, including training, veterinarian bills and things like dog food. He estimates he has nearly \$2,000 invested in his partner but said it's a small price to pay to give something back to the community.

"Not only is it good for me and good for the department, it's good for the community," Morgan said, adding he was offered a job in the Chicago area but turned it down. "I don't want to be anywhere but here."

With Rheia. "She's an amazing dog," he said.

Weather



Partly cloudy today, tonight. High 45, low 33. Tomorrow, mostly sunny, chance of rain late. High 51, low 37. For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

dis Clayborn 210, Laurie Murphy 201; **High Individual Scratch Series:** Glenda Reed 602, Sandy Eisemann 527, Mona Birch 527.

Thursday Afternoon Ladies League  
12/22/05

|                  | Won  | Lost |
|------------------|------|------|
| 1. Knuth's       | 26.5 | 18.5 |
| 2. Pla-Mor       | 26   | 19   |
| 3. Unger's       | 22   | 23   |
| 4. Bell Painting | 22   | 23   |
| 5. Carolyn's     | 20   | 25   |
| 6. Tooth Fairies | 18.5 | 26.5 |

High Team Handicap Game: Bell Painting 893, Pla-Mor 873, Tooth Fairies 845; **High Team Handicap Series:** Bell Painting 2465, Knuths 2409, Carolyns 2364; **High Individual Scratch Game:** Linda Van Burk 202, Leona York 202, Kathy Cox 194; **High Individual Scratch Series:** Kellie Johnson 537, Angie Bell 517, Terri Bell 496.

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hoopeston Auxiliary Police is now accepting applications. Applicants must be 21 years of age. Applications available at Hoopeston Police Dept., 301 W. Main, anytime.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Rossville: 1-2 bdrs. Riverview Apartments. Completely refurbished, on-site washers & dryers. 1 bdr. \$310/mo., \$310 deposit. Call (217) 840-3672.

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