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Hoopeston canine officer officially given to police department

It was last May when Hoopeston Police Officer Quentin Morgan got his partner, K-9 officer Rheia but it wasn't until July that the partnership became official.

Last month, Rheia's former owner, Thomas Hockett, signed papers officially giving the Cane Corso to Morgan and the department.

"I told them if they would get the dog trained, I would give her to them," Hockett said.

Morgan and Rheia were trained together and last month, Hockett made good his promise.

Hockett is a cane Corso breeder who lives in the Cleveland area. On his trip to Hoopeston, he brought along Rheia's dad, Oedipus Bear, and gifts for Rheia, including a new collar with her name on it from blockydogs.com and leash from Bradley K9 leads.

The Big Bully leash was designed by a 12-year-old autistic boy named Brad, Hockett said. The boy designed a lead that is multifunctional, allowing the owner to use the leash in the traditional way and also secure it around the waste for hands-free control of the dog, he said.

Rheia is one of only a handful of Cane Corso dogs



Hoopeston Police Officer Quentin Morgan, left, watches as Thomas Hockett puts a new collar on canine officer Rheia. Hockett finalized paperwork giving Rheia to the Hoopeston Police department..

being used for police work. An Italian Mastiff, she is smaller and more agile than most mastiffs.

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 from a bad heart," Morgan said.

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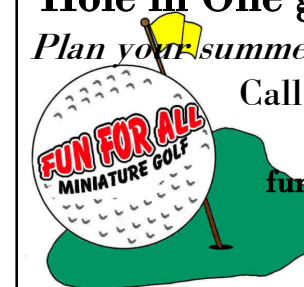
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Rt. 1, Hoopeston



Meet the teams at Hoopeston Area Sports Booster ‘Fall Sports Kick-off’ Friday evening

Hoopeston Area Sports Booster Club is hosting the fall sports kick-off at 6 p.m. Friday at the high school. Families, friends and the community are invited to show support and appreciation for our student athletes & the coaches.

One bottle of a sports drink will be the "admission" for the event, which will be donated to the teams.

Briefly

Music Booster meeting

Hoopeston Area Music Boosters will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the high school chorus room. All parents of music students are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

The evening will begin with girls volleyball scrimmage in the middle school gym, followed by soccer, then football. Each scrimmage will last 30-40 minutes. Golf and cross country teams will be introduced along with the cheerleading squad.

During the evening the community will be allowed to tour the new weight room that has been relocated to the middle school.

Police News



A 50-year-old Hoopeston man reported Monday that audio equipment was removed from his vehicle while it was parked in the 400 block of East Young. Police on patrol first noticed the vehicle had been damaged.

There will be several door prizes awarded throughout the event including sports passes and Cornjerker apparel. Please join the Booster Club in showing these athletes that their hard work and dedication is appreciated.

Obituaries

POWLEY—Memorial services for Patricia Jane “Pat” Powley, 67, of North Fort Myers, Fla., formerly of Hoopeston, will be at 11 a.m. Friday at First Church of God, Hoopeston. Burial of her ashes will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. She died Thursday, Aug. 18, 2005 in Florida. Brown-Alkire Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Hoopeston woman wins top prize with gazebo and waterfall picture during Garden Walk



Elaine Tyler’s picture from the backside of a waterfall took top honors in the Garden Walk Photography Contest, sponsored by Jack and Sarah Miller.

Tyler’s entry, left, shows water streaming from the waterfall with a gazebo and greenery in the background and was taken at the Millers’ home. It was one of seven photographs she submitted in the contest.

Her other entries included a flower garden at Brad and Merci Wells’ home; a flower-decked chiminea at Bill and Claudia DeWitt’s yard; a statue and flowers in Millers’ yard; purple flowers in Tom Gatrell’s yard; pink flowers and a pond at Millers’ home; and bright yellow flowers at Wells’ home.

Ashley Drollinger of Hoopeston submitted a photo of a flower-laden bicycle at the Wells’ home and Mike Drollinger contributed a photo of flowers and a pond from Millers’ home.

The pictures were all taken during the Garden Walk held June 17.

Weather



Partly cloudy today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 83, low 56. Tomorrow, high 84, low 58.

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

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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