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editor

Just the facts

Susan Comstock
ad manager

Wednesday, April 13, 1994

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
(217) 283-9348 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

Record-breaking rains cause local evacuations

It will be a long time before Hoopeston residents forget the morning of April 12, 1994.

Rainfall in a 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. Tuesday measured 5.34 inches, breaking the previous record of 5.04 inches set in 1902, according to Hoopeston weather watcher John Mushrush.

And much of that rain gathered on Front and Honeywell streets.

Many Front Street residents were evacuated from their homes before daylight Tuesday morning. While some were removed in four wheel drive vehicles, others required boats to leave.

While residents were safe, their belongings felt Mother Nature's effects. Several homes were extensively damaged by water, which measured over three feet deep in some places.

Dorothy Prather's back door of her Market Street home provided a bird's eye view of flooding along Front Street. From there, a local fireman could be seen wading in waste-deep water. Parked cars were covered with water up to door windows.

"It's the worst I've seen in 30 years," Prather said.

Those with flood-damaged homes may be eligible for federal assistance. Disaster teams were in Danville yesterday and were scheduled to come to Hoopeston to view the damage.

Earl Drollinger, coordinator of the local Emergency Services and Disaster Agency (ESDA) said he believes the area may qualify for federal assistance. "I think Front Street should be OK for a disaster area," he said, adding parts of Young, McNeil and Seminary may also qualify.

Drollinger and other city workers and volun-

teers bore the brunt of the storm, many starting their day early. Drollinger said he went out at 4 a.m. Six other ESDA volunteers followed.

They and Hoopeston firemen evacuated residents, taking them to the homes of families and friends or to the Eastern Illinois Multi Purpose Center.

Approximately eight people spent the morning hours at the community center, which provided coffee and doughnuts for stranded residents.

No city department was spared dealing with the flood. Street and alley workers blocked streets. Off-duty police officer Steve Bane used his fishing boat to help rescue those stranded in their homes.

Flooding was not confined solely to Hoopeston. Flooded streets were also reported in Rossville and Milford. Route 1 between Milford and Wellington was closed for a while, as was Route 49.

With stories of damage came stories of heroes, including Jim Crouch, Grant Township road commissioner.

Crouch was on his way to work Tuesday morning when he heard a noise, said township supervisor Carol Flint. "At first, he thought it was an animal," she said.

Crouch couldn't see anything, but when he grabbed a pair of binoculars, he saw a hand in the ditch and heard a female voice crying for help.

The woman, Lisa Catron, had put her car in the ditch at 11 p.m. Monday. Crouch and another township employee rescued her with Crouch's fishing boat. "He said she was absolutely frozen," Flint said.

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Court dispositions

Edward Cordova, Hoopeston, no insurance, illegal consumption, 73 hours public service work. Failure to appear. Warrant to be issued.

Amanda Salazar, Milford, rule to show cause hearing, balance due - \$100. Paid in full.

Pam Chandler, Hoopeston, no insurance, one tail light, improper lighting, pleaded not guilty. Public defender appointed. Pretrial set for July 13 in Danville.

Roger Everhart, Hoopeston, driving after revocation, reckless driving. Pled not guilty.

Marvin Hunt, Hoopeston, two counts, improper use of registration, dismissed.

Ronald Miller, Hoopeston, unlawful display on vehicle, no insurance, no valid registration. Pled not guilty. Pretrial set for July 13 in Danville.

Tracy Smith, Hoopeston, driving on suspension, speeding, no seatbelt. Failure to appear. Warrant to be issued.

Tommie D. Wininger, Hoopeston, driving under the influence of alcohol, driving on suspension, illegal transportation of alcohol. Pled not guilty. Pretrial set for July 13 in Danville.

Morris M. Riley, Hoopeston, driving under the influence of alcohol, expired registration. Pled

Police News

Jason Garrett, 818 S. Market, reported to police Monday that someone killed his three-month old German shepherd. The puppy was killed between 9 p.m. Sunday and 8 a.m. Monday. Police are investigating.

Diann Vance, 713 E. Wyman, reported to police Monday that someone ransacked a trailer at 713½ E. Wyman. Police said the trailer is rented to people currently in Texas. An investigation is continuing.

A car owned by William L. Powell, 714 S. Market, was damaged in a hit and run accident at 7:30 p.m. Monday. The car was at Routes 1 and 9 when the damage occurred.

not guilty. Pretrial set for July 13 in Danville.

Bobby Chewing, improper lane usage. Failure to appear, forfeited bond.

Joseph Cannon, Hoopeston, illegal transportation of alcohol, 56 hours public service work, \$115 total converted to public service work for a total 65 hours.

Brian Mitchell, Hoopeston, speeding, \$75.

Tracy Gick, disregarding a traffic control, \$95, three months' court supervision.

Kevin Jacobs, unattended vehicle left illegally, \$75.

Kevin Hasselbring, East Lynn, illegal transportation of alcohol, \$115 converted to 27 hours public service work, six months court supervision.

Jason Irwin, Rossville, no insurance, \$500 and costs, one year court supervision.

Obituaries

HENK - Funeral services for Hazel M. Henk have been rescheduled for 11 a.m. Thursday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour before services at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Presbyterian church of Hoopeston. Mrs. Henk died Sunday, April 10, at United Samaritans Medical Center, Logan campus, in Danville.

In the hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

April 11, 1994

Admitted: none.

Discharged: none.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today. High 60-65. Tonight, continued cloudy. Low in the mid 40s. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High near 70, low near 45.



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