


# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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## COUNTRYSIDE

### Public Auction

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10 a.m.  
One mile south of Hoopeston on  
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Lourdine Osborne  
editor

*just* **the facts**

Friday, April 15, 1994

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

Susan Comstock  
ad manager

## DCFS office guarded after caseworker suspended

A Rossville man has been placed on paid administrative leave from the Danville office of the Department of Children and Family Services.

And DCFS has hired off-duty Danville police officers to provide security, according to DCFS spokesperson in Chicago.

Terry Stephenson, of 135 E. Attica, Rossville, was placed on administrative leave April 8, pending an investigation into allegations that children in the Stephenson home have been abused, said Martha Allen, DCFS spokesperson.

Allen confirmed that off-duty police officers have been hired by the department to provide security at the Danville office. That measure will continue "until we deem it proper to let them go," Allen said.

*Have wheels, will travel*

## Hoopeston police to hold annual bicycle auction Saturday

Psst!

Looking for a good deal on a bicycle?

If so, the Hoopeston Police Department is the place to be tomorrow, for the annual bicycle auction.

Orval Kaag will trade in his police chief's hat for that of an auctioneer, beginning at 9 a.m.

Kaag said the department has approximately 15 bicycles that will be sold to the highest bidder.

Bicycles for the auction are those that officers have found throughout the year but have not been claimed, Kaag said.

The department keeps a list of all bicycles reported missing, Kaag said. That list and bicycles found during a year "don't always match up," he

Meanwhile, DCFS is conducting an internal investigation into allegations that Stephenson's children have been abused, Allen said, calling the matter a "very sensitive personnel issue."

According to DCFS spokesman Scot Hamilton, Stephenson and his wife have four children, who were removed from the home following a shelter care hearing.

Stephenson has been employed by the department for approximately four years, Hamilton said. Prior to his hiring, Stephenson received the department's usual criminal background check, which includes fingerprints, he said.

Hamilton said he did not know if the department requested a search warrant for the Stephensons. **See DCFS on other side**

said.

Prospective buyers won't pay a lot for their purchases. Most bicycles sell for \$2 to \$3. "If it's a real good one, we might get as much as \$10, Kaag said. "We get whatever we can get for them. The idea, as much as anything, is to get rid of them."

Low prices match the condition of some of the bikes, Kaag said. "They're not really all that great a bikes," he said. Many buyers purchase them for parts for other bicycles, he added.

Money received from the auction goes into the city's general fund.

This is the seventh or eighth year for the auction, which Kaag estimated would last about 20 minutes.

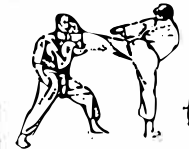
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**Prayer Corner**

Please keep the following people in your prayers and perhaps send them a card: The Rev. R.B. Standifer; Ione McBride, Illinois Knights Templar Home, Room 125, 450 Fulton, Paxton, IL. 60957; Sarah Ault; and victims of this week's flood.



## HA High School band, chorus to compete this weekend

Hoopeston Area High School's band and chorus will travel to Westville Saturday for the Illinois High School Association Music Contest.

The school's freshman chorus will perform at 8:20 a.m. The Varsity Chorus is scheduled to perform at 9:20 a.m., and the Concert Band will perform at 10:30.

Buses for chorus students will leave the high school parking lot at 6:30 a.m. Saturday. Band

students will leave at 8:30 a.m.

The public is invited to attend the contest. Admission is free.

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The Illinois Elementary School Association Music Contest, for elementary and junior high school students will be hosted by Hoopeston Area Junior High School on Saturday, April 30.

## DCFS continued from other side

on home. That warrant, executed on April 5, resulted in the arrest of Stephenson's, wife, Rhonda.

Mrs. Stephenson, 33, was arrested at 2:45 p.m. April 5 and charged with misdemeanor marijuana possession, according to Gary Miller, chief investigator for the sheriff's department.

Miller said the Vermilion County state's attorney's office issued the search warrant for the Stephenson home.

Miller said Stephenson was not home at the time of his wife's arrest.

The family's children were also away from home at the time, he said.

## In the hospital

**Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital**  
April 13, 1994

**Admitted:** William Wenzel, Kentwood, Mich.; and Judy McSpadden and Shannon Jones, both of Hoopeston..

**Discharged:** none.

## Weather

Fifty percent chance of morning showers or thunderstorms, then turning partly cloudy. High in the low 60s. Tonight, cloudy. Low in the low 40s. Tomorrow, variably cloudy. High near 55. low near 37. Sunday, sunny. High near 65. low near 36.

## Obituaries

**OYLER** - Margaret Oyler, 80. of Hoopeston, died Thursday morning at the Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Sunday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to the First Christian Church of Hoopeston

## Police News

**Michael and Angela M. Zarate**, 713½ E. Wyman, reported Tuesday that someone broke a bedroom window and took two televisions, a VCR, a glass clown and a horseshoe shaped diamond ring. Police are investigating

**Chris A. Newman**, principal of Honeywell School, reported that someone took the mail from the mailbox on April 4. Police are investigating.

**Julie A. Mullen**, 214 Henderson. Rossville, reported Wednesday that someone struck her vehicle while it was parked at 701 E. Orange. Police are investigating.

**A 16-year-old male** was arrested at 4:11 p.m. Wednesday, charged with aggravated battery and two counts of resisting arrest. He was taken to the juvenile detention center.

**Wanda J. Kitchen**, 919 W. Penn, reported that someone took a VCR and scanner from her residence. Police are investigating.

## COUNTRYSIDE

### Public Auction

Saturday, April 16

10 a.m.

One mile south of Hoopeston on  
State Road 1



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