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And the Winners Are

Winners in the Hoopeston Music Boosters calendar drawing are.

Aug. 1: John Lee, Wellington Aug. 2: Bus Burton, Hoopeston Aug. 3Melville Knapp, Cissna Park

Aug. 4: Karl & Evelyn Johnson, Watseka Aug. 5: Myrtle & J. Wayne Hitchins, Mendota Lourdine Osborne editor



Susan Comstock ad manager

Monday, Aug. 1, 1994

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

Several hundred residents attend city hall open house

Hoopeston residents turned out en masse Saturday to view their new city hall.

More than 300 people were estimated to have visited the municipal building during Saturday's open house, held from 1-5 p.m.

Visitors were given guided tours by Mayor Bob Ault and aldermen John Haughee, Wes Dazev, Mike Eckersley and Susan Comstock.

City employees were also on hand to explain the workings of their departments and serve as hosts for the event.

City offices are in the former IGA building.

Obi tuari es

FANNING - Jamet Kay Fanning, 52, of rural Milford, died at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 28, 1994. at her home. Funeral services were Sunday at the Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial was in Floral Hill Cemetery Visitation was Saturday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Wellington United Methodist Church or charity of the dornor's choice

MADER - Madalyn C. Mader, 76, of Hoopeston, died at 5:55 a.m. Friday, July 29, 1994, at Doctor's Hospital West, Columbus, Ohio. A memorial service was held yesterday at the Hoopeston United Methodist Church. Burial will be in Mount Zion Cemetery. Carlisle, Pa. There was no visitation. Memorial Contributions may be made to the Hoopeston United Methodist Church. Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home was in charge of local arrangements.



The Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 12:34 p.m. Friday to an out-of-control fire at the drainage ditch on South Sixth Ave.

Workers were doing a controlled burn when the fire became out of control.

Heidi S. Snyder, 17, 400 W. Second Ave. Rankin, turned herself in to police at 2.38 p.m. Friday.

Snyder was wanted on a warrant for failure to appear. She posted \$20 cash bond and was released.

Brian K. Whitney, 17, of 203 Gilbert. Rossville, was arrested at 1:55 p.m. Friday by Rossville police, charged with aggravated criminal sexual assault.

He was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

Brian D. Benjamin. 41755N 2000E Road reported Saturday that someone damaged his field by driving a tractor in it.

A leather key ring with several keys, a wester boot, and other items, was found on East Main Street, in front of Pizza King. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

Tonva K. Irvin, 17 was arrested at 9:36 p m Saturday on a warrant for failure to appear, she was taken to the Public Safety Building in lieu of \$1,000 bond.

Weather



Partly sunny and warm today. High near 90 Tonight, fair. Low in the upper 60s. Tomorrow isolated thunderstorms likely. High near 85, low near 65.

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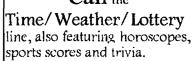
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Juvenile crime reports: sensationalism or scary facts?

Much has been written lately about the juvenile crime problem.

Add this column to the list.

What's been written so far makes it sound as though: a.) our crime rate is now on par with

Chicago or New York. or b.) we only have five or six kids running amok.

The truth lies somewhere in between.

There is no doubt that juveniles By LOURDINE OSBORNE are involved in more local acts of

crime, from taking hood ornaments from cars to breaking and entering.

News organizations which thoroughly cover the issue have been accused by some of sensationlizing the story, but I believe that to be untrue.

That eight-, nine-, and 10-year-old children have the knowledge and skills to rob cash registers and burglarize homes is sensational enough.

There are those who would like to put a positive spin on everything, acting as though Hoopeston youth have no problems.

But that is far from the truth, Hoopeston, like any other community, has kids who drink kids who do drugs.

And we like everybody else have kids who, once they've exhausted their own funds, turn to crime to support their habits.

We have kids who, deciding they have nothing better to do, wreak havoc in the community.

We have kids who travel in packs like wild dogs, scaring adults.

We have kids who think disposing of their empties means breaking beer bottles in the mini park

We have kids who are just plain mean and like to cause trouble for the fun of it.

We could, I suppose, adopt the attitude that these children come from broken or unstable homes and have parents who don't understand them.

Those things exist right here in Hoopeston, and putting a positive face on things is not going to

solve the problem.

There are those who believe that if we ignore the problem, it will go away. There are those who believe that Hoopeston will not attract new business and industry if we admit we have problems.

The media gets more than its share of blame in all this for actually airing the town's dirty laundry in public. However, I believe that s a cop-out. Perhaps a more realistic attitude to

adopt is that yes, we have problems, and yes, we're doing something

about them.

Left alone, juvenile crime, like so many other problems, will continue to grow. It's easy to look at other cities where, a few years ago, kids were breaking beer bottles and stealing hood ornaments. Now they're killing each other for tennis shoes and jackets.

Anyone who thinks that can't happen here needs to remove his rose-colored glasses.

There are some aspects of juvenile crime the general public will never be able to control

We can't make parents care about their children.

We can't make parents discipline children.

We can't make kids care about themselves or others.

What we, the media, can do is let you know what's going on so you can take appropriate action. That's our job.

We as citizens, can look out for each other, be alert to activity in our neighborhoods.

We can support city officials and the police as they try to curb this problem.

We can write to our legislators asking that laws dealing with juveniles be made tougher.

Or we can stick our heads in the sand. We can maintain a Pollyanna attitude toward the problem and, in a few years, think back to the good old days when all we had to fear from kids was a few broken beer bottles and missing hood ornaments.

The choice is ours.

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Tell us your best "fish story" in 500 words or less. The winner will receive fishing gear from Sportsman Bait & Tackle and have his or her story printed in Just the Facts. Entries due by Aug. 15.

Send entries to Just the Facts P.O. Box 441 Hoopeston, IL. 60942