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Lourdine Florek
editor

just the facts

Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1995

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
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Susan Comstock
ad manager

Arrest made in connection with rash of residential burglaries

A Hoopeston man is being held in the Vermilion County jail on charges stemming from a series of local burglaries.

Roger D. Catron, 36, of Lot 4, Hunt's Trailer Court, is being held on \$50,000 bond after being charged with six counts of residential burglary.

The charges are Class 1 felonies, said investigator Mark Drollinger of the Vermilion County sheriff's department.

The sheriff's department assisted Hoopeston police in the investigation and subsequent arrest.

Catron is charged with the Oct. 6 and Dec. 14 burglaries at 919 W. Penn along with incidents Oct. 4 at 712 W. Maple; Dec. 29 at 514 W. Lincoln; Oct. 27 at 922 W. Penn and a burglary at 634 W. Maple sometime between Dec. 23-30.

Additional charges may be filed when the investigation is complete, Drollinger said.

Catron was arrested early Monday morning by Danville police after he allegedly borrowed a car from a Hoopeston man and did not return it, said

Sgt. Steve Bane of the Hoopeston police

Drollinger, who questioned Catron about the burglaries, said Catron "had been a suspect early on," and that he "confessed to several" of the estimated 21 reported burglaries.

Catron was brought back to Hoopeston, where "we then drove him around and he pointed out the houses he'd been to," Bane said.

Police are still investigating what happened to the stolen merchandise, which includes microwaves, video cassette recorders, other electronic items and guns.

"I think it was sold," Drollinger said, adding the sheriff's department will assist Hoopeston police in locating stolen items.

Bane said if any merchandise is found, it may be difficult to return because many owners did not have serial numbers and could not provide name brands on items.

Catron's preliminary hearing has been set for Jan. 19 in Vermilion County Circuit Court.

Cat clause rescinded from Hoopeston feline ordinance

Yowling residents caused a change in a cat ordinance passed by the Hoopeston city council last month.

The ordinance required "restraint of cats by owner or keeper," said alderman Lloyd Blackwell, chairman of the city's civic improvement committee.

However, he said, "a majority of the people felt it was unjust; that you couldn't restrain a cat," so in a 5-3 vote, aldermen deleted that clause.

Aldermen Mike Eckersley, Drew Allen and


John Haughee, who expressed displeasure with the ordinance last month, voted against the change.

The \$5 and \$10 licensing fees for neutered and non-neutered cats will remain.

In related action, the council tabled an ordinance which would increase dog licensing fees from \$2 and \$5 for spayed and unspayed animals to \$5 and \$10.

Allen said raising the city fee, combined with See **ORDINANCE** on other side

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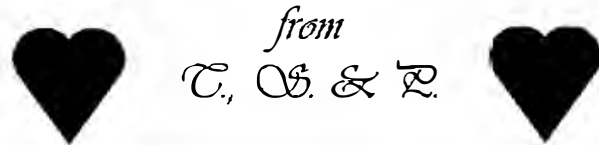
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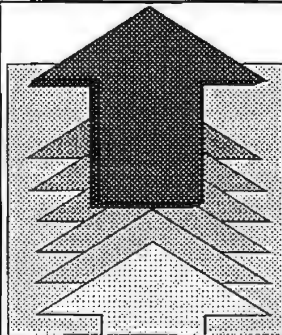
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Court dispositions



Dec. 1 - Leon Deck, Hoopeston, failure to reduce speed, pleaded guilty, \$75 total.

Corey Hardin, Alvin, speeding, \$95.

Billie Irvin, Hoopeston, uninsured, continued to Jan. 5, 1995.

Ordinance continued from other side

the \$8 county fee, would create a hardship on dog owners. "Until you clear this thing up, I won't support it," he said. "It's just not fair to the people who are taking care of their animals."

City attorney Calvin Hultquist is expected to meet with an assistant state's attorney Wednesday to discuss why city residents must pay the county fees. "We're going to aggressively pursue this issue," Hultquist said. "We're going to make it clear that we object strongly to it. If our animal control officer is unavailable, the county humane officer is not going to cover for him."

Aldermen will vote on the ordinance at the Jan. 17 meeting.

Two other ordinances were passed by the council, including one giving a five-day grace period to violators of city nuisance ordinances and another restricting building in a special flood hazard area.

The city has only one such area designated as a special flood hazard by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The area is north and east of the intersection of Front St. and Thompson Ave.

Buildings in that area will not be affected by the change, Hultquist said.

In unrelated action, the council tabled bids on new police cars.

Bids received were from Cellozi Ettelson Chevrolet, for \$13,954; Miles Chevrolet, \$13,968; and Wood River Ford, \$17,356.

All bids were from dealerships in the Chicago area, part of the state bidding pool, said city clerk Don Dean.

Ethel Newton, Hoopeston, failure to yield, \$95, 90 days court supervision.

Evelyn Slinn, Hoopeston, failure to yield, notice to be sent.

Warren Watkins, Hoopeston, uninsured, warrant to be issued.

Gabriel Alfaro, Hoopeston, rule to show cause hearing, failure to pay, continued to Jan. 5, 1995.

Josh Edwards, Hoopeston, rule to show cause hearing, failure to pay, warrant issued, released on \$200 cash bond.

Mary Vaughn, Hoopeston, rule to show cause hearing, failure to pay, continued for payment.

Bench Trials

Travis Lackey, Hoopeston, improper parking, found not guilty.

In the hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

Dec. 29, 1994

Admitted: Sheila Wallace, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Ann Marie Gonzales, Hoopeston.

Dec. 30, 1994

Admitted: Shellie Moser and John Glenn, both of Hoopeston.

Discharge: none.

Dec. 31, 1994

Admitted: none.

Discharged: Alta Longest and Shellie Moser, both of Hoopeston.

Jan. 1, 1995

Admitted: none.

Discharged: none.

Jan. 2, 1995

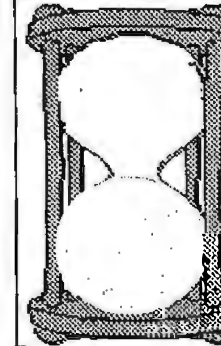
Admitted: none.

Discharged: Eunice Kinser, Hoopeston.

Weather



Mostly sunny and very cold today. High near 15. Tonight, cold. Low near 0. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High near 25, low near 5.



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