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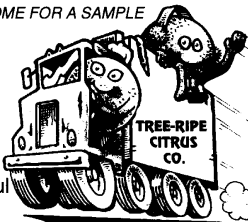
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Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

Township food cupboard may be hit by welfare changes

Changes in welfare laws may have a big impact on the Grant Township Food Cupboard.

More changes, effective July 1, will limit people to lifetime benefits of five years, said cupboard president Alta Goodrum at Monday's Community Involvement Committee meeting.

"We don't know how this is going to affect us," she said. "I think the need is going to be greater at that time."

Hardest hit may be able-bodied single people ages 18 to 55, who will be limited to three years of benefits, three months at a time, she said. "We're going to have to

figure out some way to help them."

The food cupboard board will discuss how to meet the changes, as well as whether the group should request donations of personal items, such as laundry and bath soap and shampoo, she said.

Needs at the pantry this month include peanut butter, applesauce, cake mixes and any kind of canned fruit.

In other community news, Chalmers Flint, executive director of the Hoopeston Multi Agency, said he has applied to the Illinois Department of Transportation for a new van.

The change of getting a van may be slim, he said,

Briefly

Local girl to perform at Disney

Erika Lee, a former member of Hoopeston Area High School's "New Direction" show choir, will give three performances this week in Orland, Fla., with the Lincoln College Express show choir.

The group will be featured at the Magic Kingdom, Epcot and at Universal Studios.

This is the second spring break trip in the last two years that Lee has made with the 20-member ensemble. Members are selected by audition.

In addition to performing, Lee was chosen this year to be costume manager for the trip and was elected president of the 50-voice Concert Choir on campus.

Woman pleads innocent

A rural Hoopeston woman pleaded innocent Friday to charges she obstructed justice in a Sept. 16 accident that killed her son.

Connie Donnelly, no age given, and Gary W. Halstead, 25, of Kingman, Ind., are accused of lying to investigators about the accident that killed 17-month-old

Jakob Donnelly.

Halstead also faces obstruction of justice charges.

Prosecutors said the pair lied when they told investigators that Donnelly drove the van which backed over the boy.

Fun night set

Hoopeston Area High School and middle school students will have fun while they raise money for new equipment.

Fun Night will be held March 18 at the school. Students are now accepting pledges for various fund-raising activities.

Those who are not contacted may send a donation to Dana Kuntz, 623 E. Penn, Hoopeston.

Baseball sign-up

Colt and Pony League sign-up will be held Saturday and Sunday, March 15-16 at the Hoopeston American Legion.

Cost is \$25 per person with a \$50 maximum per family.

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Local church spearheads drive for Kentucky flood victims

A Hoopeston church is leading the effort to help flood victims in Kentucky.

Members of the Hoopeston Church of Christ, 1004 E. Orange, will hold an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, said church member Gene Hanson.

Those attending the meeting will review a list of needs for flood victims and coordinate efforts to collect them.

A semi has been donated to take items to churches in the affected area, Hanson said. The tentative delivery date is March 22.

Other Hoopeston churches are joining the effort, and individuals and groups are invited to attend the meeting.

"We can pray for these people, but sometimes you've got to put feet on your prayers," Hanson said.

Obituaries

ROYSTER - Mabel E. Royster, 98, of Hoopeston, died at 1:18 p.m. Sunday, March 9, 1997, at the Vermilion Manor Nursing Home, Tilton. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Sunset Funeral

Home and Cremation Center, Danville. Burial will be in Oakridge Cemetery, Catlin. Visitation will be from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the Vermilion Manor Nursing Home.

See CHANGES on other side

Changes continued from other side

because the state agency looks at CRIS in Danville as its main point for transportation.

However, Borders said, with the Hoopeston Taxi closing and the handicapped lift breaking on the Multi Agency's current van, the transportation department may consider the request.

The Multi Agency has also applied for a \$3,500 grant from the Webster Foundation in Danville for GED classes and a local support group.

The agency is still looking for a pool table and folding tables and chairs, Flint said

In other news:

State finals for middle school wrestling will be

Friday and Saturday in the Moline-Rock Island area, said Betty Shaffer, representing Hoopeston Area schools.

The Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a crossword puzzle promotion in March. The winner, who will be selected March 28, will receive \$100 in Chamber Bucks, said Judi Benjamin, Chamber office manager.

The puzzle will be printed in Just the Facts and the Chronicle.

The Chamber will move its office to the third floor of the Palmer Bank Building effective April 1.

More histories are needed for the Hoopeston History Book, especially from younger families, Benjamin said.

Hoopeston Dollar Days will be April 11-12, as will be the street corner collection for the Fourth of July

In the Hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

March 6, 1997

Admitted: none.

Discharged: none.

March 7, 1997

Admitted: Joseph Watson, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Regina DeVillers, Hoopeston.

March 8, 1997

Admitted: Rudolfo Ortiz, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Gertrude Rentsch and Juanita Haughee,

Hoopeston.

March 9, 1997

Admitted: none.

Discharged: Joseph Watson, Hoopeston.

Weather

Partly cloudy today. High in the mid 40s. Tonight, cloudy. Low in the mid 30s. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy, warmer. High near 55, low near 35.

Police News



Avery A. Haas, 24, of 605-2 Park Ave., Lafayette, Ind., was arrested at 11:28 p.m. Sunday at West Orange and Third Ave.

Haas, wanted on two Vermilion County traffic warrants for failure to appear, was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville in lieu of bond.

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