





Have a Heart - Learn CPR and help the American Cancer Society CPR classes will be held at 6 p.m. April 14 &16 at FMC, a fundraiser for Relay For Life, a team event to fight cancer. Classes are \$15. A portion will be

donated to Relay for Life. Call Katie at (217) 283-8486 between 7 a.m.-2:30 p.m. for an appointment. Sponsored by the FMC Crop Commanders

Just the Facts<sup>©</sup> Tuesday, April 7, 1998 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 verm.rurilnet.org/~lflorek

#### —Briefly ——— **Rules of the Road**

A Rules of the Road review course will be offered from 1-3 p.m. Thursday, April 9 at the Hoopeston municipal building conference room. For more information, call (217) 283-5833.

#### Meetings

The Hoopeston city council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the city municipal building. The meeting is open to the public.

## **Good Friday service**

The Hoopeston Ministerial Association will sponsor a Good Friday service at noon April 10 at the First Church of God on East Orange.

A drama, "The People Versus Christ," will be presented by Sadie Evans, the Rev. Dan Lybarger and the Rev. Ken Dees.

The public is invited to attend.

Lourdine Florek

owner/publisher

**Rossville teen hospitalized in** critical condition after accident

Phone/Fax

ROSSVILLE—A local teen remained in critical condition Monday afternoon after he was involved in an accident while riding a mini bike.

Kim Youkey, 14, was injured after riding his mini bike from an alley into Chicago St. and striking a car, said Rossville police chief Paul DeWitt.

The driver of the car, Eula Arseneau of Beaverville, was not injured.

Youkey, who suffered head and leg injuries, was taken to Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital, then transferred to Carle Foundation Hospital by Life Flight, DeWitt said.

A Carle spokesperson listed him in critical condition Monday afternoon.

The accident is still under investigation and tickets may be pending, DeWitt said.

# Letter to the Editor

#### EMT looks at ambulance problem

Many of you have read over the past week the dilemma the Hoopeston Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) is facing. I would like to begin by telling you a little bout myself. I have been with HEMS since May 1995. I began as a First Responder and am currently a provisional Paramedic. I work part-time for Arrow Ambulance, Champaign, and am what the city calls a "volunteer" EMT (or what we consider a full-time EMT at volunteer status) for HEMS. I am on call from 60 to 120 hours weekly and, at times, 168 hours for a oneweek period during which time I cannot leave town, be alone with my two small children without a prearranged babysitter on a whim's notice, or hold a fulltime job in the city of Hoopeston. This is because employers are not as supportive to let an EMT leave for an unknown amount of time in an emergency on a daily basis. I understand their point of view, they have a job that needs to be done. But we have a job that also needs to be done. I am not complaining of the consequences that I face for being an EMT. One does this profession not for glory or personal gain or most definitely not for the money. One does this for the desire to help someone during their time of need. I choose to make these sacrifices because I care about our community. Working in Champaign, I have come to realize that there's nothing like being able to help our own community.

See LETTER on other side



## Letter continued from other side

The problem at hand is simple. We are running short of daytime EMTs because most have full-time day jobs and are unable to leave work like one could in the past. We have two EMTs able to run day calls and one EMT who, since January, has left a their job and own business on almost a daily basis. On average, HEMS responds to 60 calls monthly. During 1997, the ambulance was dispatched 789 times. Of those, 471 were first calls - calls to a residence - and 318 were transfers out of town. To break this down further, 510, or 65%, of total calls occurred between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. and 279, 35%, occurred between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. From January to March 1998, we have been dispatched 177 times. Of those, 107 were first calls and 70 were transfers. Of these, 124, or 70%, occurred between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. Obviously, the greatest need for an ambulance is during the day.

We have proposed that the city hire two full-time EMTs for minimum wage to alleviate some concerns whether the service can continue to run during day hours. We brought our concerns to the city in January, and we are no closer to

> Wolfe Funeral Home 907 W. Main St. Hoopeston, IL. (217) 283-5088

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resolving this problem now that we were three months ago. If something doesn't change soon (and I am not trying to frighten the community but let them know the urgent need to solve our problem because it becomes their problem when their ambulance cannot serve them) there might not be a service available during the day.

Now one may think Rossville, at six miles away or Milford, at 12 miles, can serve Hoopeston. Let's bear in mind that these services are not full time. They have to assemble a crew before they begin their way to Hoopeston or our outlying communities. That adds another four to five minutes to their response time. Also, we must realize they might not know the area as well, delaying the time before an ambulance arrives. Consider, too, that both services could be responding to calls in their own communities. What's going to happen when someone in Hoopeston needs help? Who's going

April 2: Jerry Hargrove, Hoopeston, to pay \$125,

Kathy Mann, Hoopeston, to complete 13 hours

Abby Morgeson, Hoopeston, completed public

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

April 2, 1998

Discharged: Anna Paulson, Belinda Roberts, Lula

April 3, 1998

April 4

Discharged: Salome Gudeman, Harry Johnson,

April 5

Admitted: Anthony King, Hoopeston; Hylma

public service work; rule to show cause issued.

Admitted: Ruby Owen, Rossville.

Discharged: Shirley VanCamp.

In the Hospital

McNeely, Rossville.

Admitted: none.

Admitted: none.

Discharged: none.

Anthony King.

continued.

Compton.

to come? The next closest would be Medix from Danville, IMH from Watseka or Ford-Baier from Paxton, all of which are staffed full-time, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Now you are talking, at best, a 30minute response time with the best directions to your home. By then it may be too late!

As a dedicated EMT who is not wanting HEMS to end service during the day, I ask our community for its input on this problem. We need your help to resolve this. Please address any suggestions or concerns to Mayor Bob Ault or the Hoopeston Ambulance Committee at 301 W. Main St. You may also address us, the Hoopeston EMTs, at 819 E. Penn St. We don't want to see the Ambulance Service come to an end.

> Respectfully, A very concerned EMT Shannon Ramos



**Tani O'Neal,** Hoopeston, paid fine, costs in full. **Cheryl Potts,** Hoopeston, completed public service work; to pay restitution, rule to show cause issued.

**Terry Rucker,** Boswell, Ind., deceptive practice; failed to appear.

Jackie Trautvetter, Hoopeston, paid \$150 in full.

#### Obituaries

**COMPTON** - Lula Katherine Compton, 86, of Hoopeston, died at 9:33 a.m. Sunday, April 5, 1998, at Provena Covenant Medical Center, Urbana. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Floral Hill Cemetery. There will be no visitation. The Brown-Alkire Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

#### Weather

**Court Dispositions** 

service work.

Mostly cloudy, chance of showers, thunderstorms today. High 63. Tonight, continued chance of rain. Low 48. Tomorrow, chance of showers, thunderstorms. High 65, low 49.

For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston** Weather Line at (217) 283-6221.



# Classifieds

#### HELP WANTED

Two part-time positions available. Must be fast, friendly, dependable. Apply in person at Burger King, Routes 1 and 9, Hoopeston. No phone calls.

Hoopeston Migrant Head Start is accepting applications for Fiscal Coordinator through April 10, 1998. EOE.

Qualifications: Prefer Associates Degree in Accounting; experience in financial record-keeping; must have computer skills and knowledge; and a valid driver's license. Must be able to sit for several hours at a time; use calculator and telephone; ability to communicate both orally and in writing; ability to process and follow oral and written instructions; ability to lift boxes of files and forms.

Responsible for maintaining on computer accounts payable journal, cash disbursements journal, cash receipts journal, general journal, general ledger, preparing monthly expenditure reports, calculate payroll and applicable taxes, pay quarterly taxes, reconcile monthly bank statements; maintain invoice files according to funding sources, prepare financial reports to the Board of Directors and PPC; maintain complete and accurate inventory; assist in preparation of regular budget projections, contracts, funding proposals and cost analysis reports; participate in annual audit; order supplies and equipment; record in-kind documentation.

1 or 2 ladies to have a garage sale at my place. Sell your stuff and mine, with or without me. I'm handicapped. Call Ron, 283-5391.

97-99

#### VEHICLES FOR SALE

1985 Chevy Celebrity station wagon. V-6 automatic transmission with overdrive. Runs good. \$1,300. Call (217) 748-