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## RurILnet to unplug from information superhighway

After more than two years as an access lane to the information superhighway, RurILnet is closing down.

RurILnet, will no longer provide internet access to Hoopeston, Cissna Park, Watseka, Sheldon and Clifton residents, effective May 1, said Lou Graham, Hoopeston Public Library head librarian.

The decision to suspend service was made by librarians at the five sites based on the need for updated equipment and a hacking that proved expensive.

In January, RurILnet received a \$16,000 telephone bill, compliments of a computer hacker who used the library system to make long distance calls, Graham said. "It was a wake-up call," she said, adding the service expects additional long distance charges on the bill it receives this month.

That, combined with the need for improved equipment, caused librarians to jointly agree to "phase out rather than upgrade," Graham said.

Although modems will be disconnected May 1, customers who request it may have their email forwarded to another provider until Nov. 1. Users who want the ser-

vice must notify the library, Graham said.

Work on RurILnet began in 1996 when the libraries discussed providing a community information network, similar to the Champaign-based Prairienet. "It seemed like a reasonable thing but the information network was hard to control" because so much information was scattered throughout the World Wide Web, Graham said, calling the internet a "many-appendaged thing."

RurILnet was started because the communities involved had either no internet service or ones that were costly, she said. "We had a good, solid customer base we thought would leave when other services opened up but they stayed with us," she said.

In 1996, the libraries received an \$88,000 state library grant to get RurILnet running and in November 1997, the first successful dialup was made. The service provided free internet access until June 1, 1998.

Closing the service is a mixed bag for Graham. "Whenever you have an innovative thing, you always hope for success," she said. "I think we had success. "We hate it but I think our customers will be happy about it when they're able to connect at higher speeds."

The Hoopeston Public Library will continue to offer access to the internet through computers at the library.

## Police News



**Clinton R. Lake**, 17, of 1115 W. Orange, Lot 2, turned himself in to police at 8:50 p.m. Wednesday. Lake, wanted on a Vermilion County traffic warrant, was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville in lieu of bond.

**No tickets** or injuries were reported in an accident at 11:16 a.m. Thursday in the 600 block of East Penn.

Police said Don Gaffney of Hoopeston, in a 1992 Mini Bird school bus, backed from a private drive into a parked 1984 Oldsmobile owned by Fletcher P. Sanders of Paxton.

## LORRAINE THEATRE

**Screen 1 – "The Hurricane"** (R)

Starring Denzel Washington, winner, Best Actor—Golden Globe Award  
7 p.m. nightly, 9:45 p.m. Fri. & Sat., 1 & 3:45 p.m. Sun.

**Screen 2— "Scream 3"** (R)

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♥ *Send your Valentine  
where they are Friday*

(guarantee a great weekend)

♥ *Send it Saturday*

(maybe they won't have to carry it home)

♥ *Send Monday*

(the traditionalist way)

*Sending it to work is sort of fun because  
everyone knows you remembered your  
Valentine and so is the joy of our delivery  
coming to their own door*

*Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert*

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## February is short on days but long on activities at Hubbard Trail Country Club

**Tacos served every Wednesday**

5-8 p.m.

**Steak Fry**

Friday, Feb. 11 6-8

Serving steak, chicken breasts  
and pork chops

**Biscuit & Gravy Breakfast**

Saturday, Feb. 12 7-10 a.m.

**Valentine Dinner & Dance**

Saturday, Feb. 12

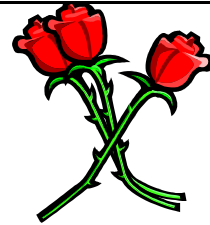
Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m.  
Dance 8-11 p.m. featuring Maui Club

**(217) 748-6521**

Nothing says love like

# Roses

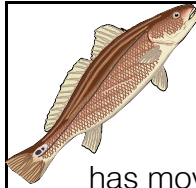
For Valentine's Day



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## Flower Shop

S. Second Ave., Hoopeston  
(217) 283-6681



## The North Fork Conservation Club Fish Fry

has moved to the VFW for the winter  
**11 a.m.-7 p.m. every Friday**  
Fish & shrimp dinners—\$5  
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## Lunch Menus



### Hoopeston Area Middle/High School

MONDAY: Roast turkey/roll or hamburger/bun, mashed potatoes, green beans, cupcake, fruit, milk.

TUESDAY: Ravioli/breadstick or ham & cheese/bun, salad bar, fruit, milk.

WEDNESDAY: Burrito or rib/bun, Spanish rice, salad bar, fruit, milk.

THURSDAY: Sausage pizza or hot dog/bun, salad bar, fruit, milk.

FRIDAY: Grilled cheese, choice of vegetable or potato soup, brownie, fruit, milk.

### Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Roast turkey, roll, mashed potatoes, green beans, fruit, milk.

TUESDAY: Ravioli/breadstick, corn, fruit, milk.

WEDNESDAY: Rib/bun, macaroni & cheese, celery sticks, fruit, milk.

THURSDAY: Sausage pizza, pudding, fruit, milk.

FRIDAY: Chicken patty/bun, fries, fruit, milk.

### Rossville-Alvin schools

MONDAY: Chicken patty/bun, fries, mixed fruit, milk.

TUESDAY: Pizza squares, salad, pears, shape-up, milk.

WEDNESDAY: Fish nuggets, macaroni & cheese, corn, orange, milk.

THURSDAY: Beef & noodles, mashed potatoes/gravy, mixed vegetables, peaches, bread, butter, milk.

FRIDAY: Pancake & sausage, hash browns, orange juice, grapes, milk.

## Obituaries

**BYRD**—Hiram "Woody" Byrd, 83, of Hoopeston, died at 4:55 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2000 at his daughter's home in Sheldon. Funeral services will be at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Wolfe Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Iroquois Memorial Hospice, Watseka.

**MILLER**—Gordon H. Miller, 92, of Ambia, Ind., died at 2:55 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2000 at Edgewood Health Care in Oxford, Ind. Graveside services will be at

11 a.m. Friday at Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 10 to 10:45 a.m. Friday at the funeral home.

## New books at the library



### Non-fiction:

The Season by Ronald Kessler  
Creeker by Linda Scott DeRosier

## In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital  
Feb. 9

Admitted: none.  
Discharged: Marvin Umbanhowar.

## Weather



Chance of snow/rain today. High 38. Tonight, snow, windy. Low 25. Tomorrow, snow ending. High 30, low 15. Sunday, cloudy. High 37, low 17.

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

Valentine's Day is Monday,  
February 14th.  
Make hearts happy at

**WEBER'S Hallmark SHOP**  
221 E. Main, Hoopeston (217) 283-5136

Open Friday & Saturday  
**Brianna's Baby Shop**  
More items added this week  
25% off all clothing, infant, teen,  
maternity, plus, stroller, car seat. Huge  
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Friday, Feb 11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 12 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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**Valentine Bouquets**  
2 mylar & 5 latex balloons  
w/jar candle **\$16.22** plus tax  
2 mylar & 5 latex balloons  
w/stuffed animal **\$18.22** plus tax  
Free delivery from Milford to Danville  
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## Cissna Park Bowl

Jackpot Bowl  
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9 pin no tap mixed doubles  
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