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McFerren Park ducks have saviors among local residents

Youngsters save duckling caught in line at park

Two Hoopeston youngsters are being credited with saving the life of a duckling at McFerren Park.

Brandon Eades, 9, and Kari Seiders, 12, had just finished swimming last Thursday when they found the young duck with fishing line wrapped around its neck, said Eades' mother, Janet Lindsay.

The duckling tried unsuccessfully to get free of the line, in the process pulling the line tighter. "It was so tight around his throat, he was barely breathing," Lindsay said.

The children took the duck and unwrapped him from the line as the mother duck monitored their progress. "The mother just sat there and watched them set the baby free," she said.

After freeing the duckling, whom they now call Charlie, the youngsters "started pulling up fishing line so ducks wouldn't get caught in it again," Lindsay said.

Policeman keeps ducks afloat, helps ready benches for festival

A Hoopeston police sergeant is getting an "atta boy" from the city's parks workers.

Sergeant Jimmy Goodrum has worked not only to help the park's ducks, but also in repairing picnic tables, said Eugene Warner of the parks department.

After Warner built a house for the ducks, Goodrum designed a way for the house to float in the lagoon,



Photo by James Eyrich

Two of McFerren Park's ducks head towards their floating home in the lagoon. The ducks have been a focus lately as Hoopeston Police Sergeant Jimmy Goodrum designed a way for the house to float while two youngsters saved a duckling from strangling last week.

Warner said.

Also, Goodrum has, for the last two weeks, spent his days off welding park picnic tables that have been vandalized. "He's getting them nice and sturdy for the festival, is what he's doing," Warner said.

While at the park, Goodrum also talks with youngsters caught vandalizing the park. "Adults will see kids vandalizing and won't do anything about it," Warner said. "Jimmy will talk to them and tell them what they're doing wrong."

"I wish there was more people who took pride in the park like he does."

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Police News



Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident reported at 5:30 p.m. Sunday. An unknown vehicle hit a parked 1989 Plymouth van owned by Rebecca Milburn of 527 W. Washington.

The accident occurred in the 100 block of East Main.

A **boy's Top Fuel** Huffy bicycle was found Sunday at Cheese Park at Market and Thompson. The red and yellow bike may be identified and claimed at the police

station.

A **chrome** Mongoose bicycle was reported stolen Sunday from a front porch in the 300 block of South Market.

A **60-year-old** man reported Monday that several pieces of mail were thrown in his yard. The mail, addressed to three people, had been opened. The incident occurred in the 700 block of East Wyman.

Friday night interdiction results in several traffic citations

Several people received traffic citations following a joint effort between the Hoopeston Police Department and Vermilion County Sheriff's Department.

The interdiction resulted in one citation for no child restraint, four alcohol-related tickets, two each

for no insurance, speeding and no valid driver's license, five written warnings, two miscellaneous tickets and two drug arrests, said Hoopeston Chief Mark Drollinger.

This is the third interdiction in recent months.

Briefly

Bowling meetings

•The Wednesday Night Men's League will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Pla-Mor Lanes. Anyone unable to attend should call the bowling alley at 283-5195.

The Early Sunday Night Mixed League will meet at 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25 at Pla-Mor Lanes. Anyone interested in bowling is asked to call Suzanne Lawson, 283-

5326 or Keith Hicks, 283-5364.

•The Thursday Afternoon Women's League will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday at Pla-Mor Lanes. Anyone interested in bowling but unable to attend should call the bowling alley, 283-5195.

Teen Reach

The Hoopeston Multi Agency Teen Reach program will begin Wednesday, Aug. 23, from 1:30-7:30 p.m. Parents must register students who will participate. Tutors will be available to help with homework; students must bring homework to the program. For more information, call the Multi Agency, 283-5544.

School opens today

Hoopeston Area students will return to the classroom today, the first day after summer vacation. Classes will dismiss early, at 11:05 for grade schools and 11:20 for middle/high school students.

In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital Aug. 17

Admitted: Thelma Halley, Raymond Pruitt, Rankin; Leonard Larimer, Eunice Rhodes, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Wilbert Eilers.

Aug. 18

Admitted: Fanny Simons, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Eunice Rhodes, Richard Kiser, Raymond Pruitt.

Aug. 19

Admitted: Luella Gilbert, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Anthony Burlingancy, Ruby Adair.

Aug. 20

Admitted: Charles Johnson, Hoopeston.

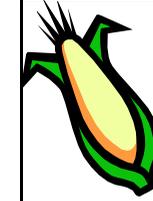
Discharged: Leonard Larimer, Fanny Simons

Weather



Thunderstorms likely today. High 80. Tonight, continued chance of showers. Low 66. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High 84, low 64.

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



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HELP WANTED

Part time office person needed. Must have computer skills. Accounting a plus. Send resume to P.O. Box 27, Hoopeston, IL 60942. 227-231

Part time housekeeping, 5 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Contact Beth Totheroh, Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital, 701 E. Orange St., Hoopeston, IL 60942, (217) 283-5531, ext. 200. 228-234

SERVICES

Borders Trucking hauling dirt, sand, rock. (217) 283-5442 or cell phone (217) 474-5584. Good black dirt for sale.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

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