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Man, dog team up for police work in Vermilion County

If a dog is man's best friend, Deputy Jerry Christian of the Vermilion County Sheriff's Department has a friend for life.

Christian showed the skills of his 2½-year-old Rottweiler, Zoe, at Monday's Hoopeston Neighborhood Watch meeting. Zoe and Christian are part of the sheriff's department canine unit.

Zoe is trained in using articles to search for people; drug locating, including marijuana, cocaine and heroin; and aggression. She is a third generation police dog, Christian said. Her grandmother is a retired Vermilion County dog and her mother is still working in Tilton.

Christian said he volunteered to become part of the canine unit. "I enjoy working with dogs, always have," he said. He paid for Zoe and for her training, not an inexpensive proposition since the Danville Police Department recently paid \$14,000 for a trained dog.

Christian, a six-year deputy, predominantly uses hand signals with Zoe when he commands her to sit, heel or search for drugs. The dog, still a puppy at heart, enjoys her work and gets excited when she hears Christian say "check" to look for drugs.

Zoe belies the Rottweiler's reputation as a mean breed. "She's not a mean dog outside of the car," he said. She

has only bitten one person in the line of duty and is very loyal. "I'd trust her with my life," Christian said.

In fact, Zoe lives with Christian and his family and is a pet to his children. "You should see what they do to her," he said.

Although Zoe is not mean-tempered, she is very protective, not only of Christian but his family, as well. "I pity the person who tries to mess with my family," he said.

Zoe trained for a year before Christian took her out on the road. The pup was no different than a child who did

See TEAM on other side

Hoopeston residents gear up to show support for new prison

Some Hoopeston residents hope their enthusiasm for a new prison will spur Department of Corrections officials to build the maximum security facility here.

Citizens Supporting the Prison, a group of Hoopeston residents in favor of the prison, have placed petitions at Weber Drugs, Main Street Travel/Polson Insurance and Global Fashions. The petitions will be presented at Wednesday's public hearing on the issue.

The hearing, at which residents are expected to be able to question Department of Corrections representatives and express their opinions on the prison, will be held at 6 p.m. at the McFerren Park Civic Center.

Citizens Supporting the Prison also plans a pro-prison sign campaign in Hoopeston and at entrances to the city in preparation for the public hearing.

Other suggestions on signs of support are welcome. Suggestions may be given to Pat Polson at Main Street Travel, 283-6646 or Lourdine Florek at Just the Facts, 283-9348

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Hoopeston, IL

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Conservation Club

Board elections/meeting Jan. 16

Anyone interesting in a board position should attend. Dues must be paid before the meeting.

Raffle-Prizes-Eats

Memberships may be purchased that night.

Call Jerry Clayburn, 283-6401; Jerry Johnson 765-869-4068; Juan Acosta 283-6051; Jim Compton 283-4260; Don Herbst 283-7402; Glenn Thompson 283-6066; Oat's Bait Shop 283-9999.

3rd Annual
**American Cancer Society &
 Carle Hospice Benefit**
 Saturday, Jan. 13 9 p.m.-1 a.m.
American Legion
 502 E. Penn, Hoopeston
 Featuring **Full Circle**
 \$3 single, \$5 couple

Rickey G's



Village Pub
Karaoke & DJ
 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday
 no cover charge
 125 S. Chicago, Rossville

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 WALK-INS OR APPOINTMENTS



Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Martin Luther King holiday, milk.

TUESDAY: Pepperoni pizza, baby carrots, raisins, milk.

WEDNESDAY: Spaghetti/meat sauce, breadstick, graham
 cracker, pears, milk.

THURSDAY: Fish nuggets, macaroni/cheese, corn chips,
 juice, apple cake, milk.

FRIDAY: Sausage, pancake bites, tri-tator, pudding, pears,
 milk.

Hoopeston Area Middle/High School

MONDAY: Martin Luther King holiday, milk.

TUESDAY: Pepperoni pizza or fish/bun, cheese slice, car-
 rots, raisins, milk.

Briefly

Play rescheduled

The Hoopeston Area Middle School's rendition of
 "A Christmas Story: Scrooge and Marley," originally
 to be performed last month, will be presented at 7
 p.m. Saturday in the high school auditorium.

Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for students and free
 for children under 5 and senior citizens.

Team continued from other side

not want to learn. "She'd have days when she didn't
 want to work and would pout," he said.

Christian considers dogs "invaluable" for police de-
 partments, especially those like the sheriff's department
 where officers work alone and backup can be several
 miles away. "At least I've got someone looking out for
 me," he said.

Zoe and Christian have been involved in some major
 cases, including a traffic stop on I-74 at the county line

Sale

**25%-50% off Christmas items
 and much more**



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Lunch Menus



WEDNESDAY: Biscuit/sausage gravy or rib/bun, tri-tator,
 scrambled eggs, orange, milk.

THURSDAY: Spaghetti/meat sauce/breadstick or BBQ
 chicken/bun, peas, pears, milk.

FRIDAY: Grilled cheese, chili or broccoli soup, crackers,
 pears, milk.

Rossville-Alvin schools

MONDAY: Martin Luther King holiday, milk.

TUESDAY: Pork BBQ/bun, California blend/cheese, apple-
 sauce, pudding, milk.

WEDNESDAY: Sub sandwich, tater tots, baked apples, pret-
 zel sticks

THURSDAY: Turkey & noodles, mashed potatoes, gravy,

green beans, mixed fruit, bread, butter, milk.

FRIDAY: Fish, macaroni & cheese, peas & carrots, pears,
 milk.

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(217) 283-9999

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 011-015

RUMMAGE SALES

Huge 2 family rummage sale. Friday, Jan. 12 and Saturday, Jan.
 13 at Wayne's World Arcade, 109 E. Main, Hoopeston. 8-late.
 New & used items too numerous to mention. Bargains galore!

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 ment. (217) 339-2340.

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In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
Jan. 10

Admitted: none.

Discharged: Ila Thrasher, Helen Custer.

Weather



Mostly cloudy with areas of fog today. High 35. To-
 night, mostly cloudy, areas of fog. Low 27. Tomorrow,
 mostly cloudy, chance of rain late. High 40, low 35.
 Sunday, rain likely. High 37, low 34.

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