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Supreme Court Justice speaks at Neighborhood Watch

She's been an attorney, a trial judge, appellate judge and now, Rita Garman of Danville is a justice on the Illinois Supreme Court.

Garman, speaking at Wednesday's Neighborhood Watch meeting, discussed her career, stemming from her earliest days on the bench.

"Being here is like being home," she said. She was named associate circuit judge 27 years ago, a position she held for 12 years. Part of her duties then included hearing cases in Hoopeston.

In 1986, she was named a Fifth Judicial Circuit judge. Of nine years there, eight were as presiding judge. In 1995, Garman was selected as an Appellate Court judge. She ran unopposed in 1996 and served until January when she was appointed to the Supreme Court, representing District 4 which is made up of more than 17,000 square miles and has more than 1, 225,000 people. It has a larger land mass than nine states and more populated than 13 states.

Garman is one of seven justices. Three are from Chicago and one from each of the other four districts. She is the second woman to serve on the state's high court.

As a justice, Garman will hear all death penalty cases. Although Gov. George Ryan imposed a moratorium on



GARMAN

executions, prisoners are still being sentenced to death and the court is still hearing those cases, she said.

Other cases the court hears include challenges to either the U.S. or Illinois Constitutions and revenue issues and issues not settled by the legislature. An example of that would be redistricting based on census results. If the legislature cannot agree on redistricting, the court would make the decision, she said.

Other cases are heard by request. The court chooses which cases will be heard based on whether there is disagreement on what the law means or questions about points of law.

Garman said her experience on the bench helps in her new role. "It's really beneficial," she said, because the Supreme Court does not hear testimony from witnesses. "I remember that there are people behind every case."

Garman is in Springfield for three-week terms every other month. Her next term begins Monday. The rest of the time, she maintains an office in Danville where she writes opinions and handles other court matters.

Garman will run for re-election in 2002. After that, she will serve 10 year terms and will run for retention.

Briefly

WHPO Expo

WHPO will hold its Business Expo from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday at the McFerren Park Civic Center, Hoopeston. Admission is free.

The event will include exhibitions by area businesses, entertainment provided by The Academy for the Performing Arts, John Greer band and chorus, fashion show and Hoopeston Area High and Middle School jazz bands and show choirs.

Meetings

- Rossville village board, 9 a.m. Saturday, village office, to discuss the budget and salary schedules.
- Hoopeston police committee, 11 a.m. Tuesday, city hall, to discuss dog ordinances and new siren location.
- Hoopeston water/sewer committee, 1 p.m. Tuesday, city hall, update work at lagoons.
- Hoopeston civic improvement committee, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, to discuss ordinances.

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Screen 2 — "Remember the Titans"^(PG)

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Coming soon: O' Brother, Where Art Thou? & Crouching Tiger/Hidden Dragon

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35th Annual

Rossville Antique Show & Sale

Rossville-Alvin High School

Saturday, March 10 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, March 11 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

(CST)

\$2 donation good for both days

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Manager: Naomi Freeman

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Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Cheese pizza, pudding, juice, pears, milk.

TUESDAY: Chicken/bun, tri-tator, pineapple, milk.

WEDNESDAY: Spaghetti-Os/meatballs, corn, cheese stick, breadstick, apple crisp, milk.

THURSDAY: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, peas, bread, oleo, peaches, milk.

FRIDAY: French toast sticks, sausage patty, fruit cocktail, baby carrots, pumpkin bar, milk.

Hoopeston Area Middle/High School

MONDAY: Cheese pizza or hot dog/bun, fries, celery sticks, pears, milk.

Lunch Menus



TUESDAY: Sweet & sour pork/rice or chicken patty/bun, cheese slice, corn, bread, oleo, peaches, milk.

WEDNESDAY: Ravioli/cheesy breadstick or breaded pork/bun, mixed veggies, apple crisp, milk.

THURSDAY: Taco meat/chips or mini corn dogs, lettuce, tomato, cheese, salsa, oranges, milk.

FRIDAY: Grilled cheese, chili or potato soup, crackers, pumpkin bars, milk.

Rossville-Alvin schools

MONDAY: Taco, corn, peaches, cookie, milk.

TUESDAY: Pizza square, salad, apple, Jello/fruit, milk.

WEDNESDAY: PB&J, chili, crackers, baked apples, shape-

up, milk.

THURSDAY: Tuna noodle casserole, green beans, mixed fruit, brownie, milk.

FRIDAY: Hot dog, baked beans, pineapple, pretzel/cheese, milk.

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Obituaries

HAMILTON—Bessie (Lane) Hamilton, 81, of Hoopeston, died at 8:24 a.m. Wednesday, March 7, 2001 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Sunday at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be noon-2 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Chestnut Street Church of Christ.

PRICKETT—Pauline E. Prickett, 85, of Hoopeston, died at 12:40 a.m. Wednesday, March 7, 2001 at Iroquois Resident Home, Watseka. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Iroquois Resident Home, 200 Fairman, Watseka, IL 60970.

WATSON—Robert L. Watson, 52, of Tilton, died at 5:17 a.m. Wednesday, March 7, 2001 at Provena United Samaritans Medical Center, Logan campus, Danville.

Funeral services will be private. Visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Friday at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association.

Boy arrested for threatening violence

A 13-year-old boy was arrested by Hoopeston police at 10:35 a.m., charged with disorderly conduct after police said he told students, teachers and administrators that he planned to bring a gun to school and shoot teachers. The boy was taken to the Vermilion County courthouse for a juvenile detention hearing.

Weather



Partly sunny today. High 38. Tonight, clear. Low 25. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 50, low 35. Sunday, chance of rain. High 43, low 30.

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

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