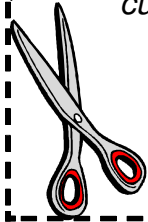


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Hoopeston chief mourns fallen Vermilion County deputy

Hoopeston Police Chief Mark Drollinger is mourning and remembering a former comrade, slain Tuesday.

Vermilion County Sheriff's Department Sgt. Myron G. Deckard, 72, was killed Tuesday morning while transporting a prisoner from Montgomery County to Danville.

Drollinger first met Sgt. Deckard as a child when he and Drollinger's father were in the Danville Auxiliary Police. Drollinger later served under Sgt. Deckard at the sheriff's department, where Sgt. Deckard was Drollinger's supervisor.

"Myron was three people," Drollinger said Thursday. "He was Myron to his fellow officers. He was Sgt. Deckard to the bad guys. And he was Uncle Butch to kids. Both of my sons have known him as Uncle Butch since they were born."

Sgt. Deckard was a mixture of strength and tenderness. "He was the toughest, grizzly old guy when he needed to be," Drollinger said, adding he also saw Sgt. Deckard shed tears over a birthday card made by Drollinger's sons.

Drollinger praised Sgt. Deckard's dedication and tenacity, relating a story told by county dispatchers that once, while making an annual trip to Colorado, Sgt. Deckard used his cell phone to call the sheriff's department to check on the license plate of a vehicle in front of him. "He thought (the driver) was wanted on a warrant," Drollinger said. "I could just go on and on for days with Myron-isms."

As Sgt. Deckard looked out for bad guys, he also looked after his employees. "He was everybody's guardian angel," Drollinger said.



SGT. MYRON DECKARD

Sgt. Deckard continued to keep in touch after Drollinger became Hoopeston's chief. "He would call or come up at least once a week," Drollinger said. It was Sgt. Deckard who gave Drollinger his desk nameplate when he was named chief here.

A Carlinville man is facing a preliminary charge of first degree murder in Sgt. Deckard's murder.

Daniel E. Raines, 29, is being held without bond in the Macon County Jail in connection with the shooting. He is expected to be arraigned on formal charges Friday.

According to police reports, Sgt. Deckard picked Raines up at 9 p.m. Tuesday in an unmarked squad car. The car did not have a cage separating Sgt. Deckard from Raines. Raines was wearing a restraint belt and handcuffs which he was able to escape from. He allegedly overpowered Sgt. Deckard, forced the car off the road, then took Sgt. Deckard's gun and shot him.

The shooting occurred on Interstate 72 in northeastern Macon County. A state trooper spotted the car Wednesday morning and found Sgt. Deckard's body inside.

Sgt. Deckard was bringing Raines back to Vermilion County on a warrant for failing to appear in Circuit Court for a traffic violation.

Sgt. Deckard, of Danville, became a Vermilion County deputy in 1972. He was promoted to sergeant in 1983. For the last 15 years, he was a warrant officer, bringing in people charged with various crimes.

Sgt. Deckard had been injured in the line of duty. In 1983, he was shot in the throat and back while trying to arrest a man.

See DEPUTY on other side

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**Hoopeston Jaycees
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Briefly

ABATE meeting

The Hubbard Trail Chapter of ABATE will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Friday at Dad's Place in Bryce.

On Saturday, the group will host a bike show at Dad's Place, with sign-up from noon to 3 p.m. A hog

roast is scheduled, with entertainment by a live band. Dad's Place is located west of Milford at Rt. 1 or east of Rt. 49 on the Milford Rd.

Survey meeting

The Hoopeston Visioning For the Future committee will announce the results of a community survey at 6:30

Police News

Non-fiction:

Encyclopedia of Illinois Indians, 2 volumes (reference)
The Unwanted by Kien Nguyen
Farm & Home Plat & Directory, Iroquois County 2001
Farm & Home Plat & Directory, Vermilion County 2001

Videos:

Crossroads Café
We also have several CDs that were donated to us.

Children's Books:

Non-fiction:

The Pawnee by Stuart A. Kallen
Shirley Temple Black by Jean F. Blashfield
Sugar was My Best Food: Diabetes and Me by Carol Peacock

Videos:

Barney's Big Surprise
Barney's Great Adventure – the Movie
Barney's Musical Scrapbook
The Cat in the Hat
Kids for Character
Mutt and Jeff
Porky Pig

Cassettes:

Fast & Easy Spanish

Four arrested after incident in local grocery store parking lot

Four people were arrested at 9:20 p.m. Wednesday after an altercation in the Jerry's IGA parking lot.

Arrested on a complaint from a 19-year-old man and 16-year-old girl were:

John R. Dene, 21, of 315 Holmes, Rossville, on preliminary charges of criminal damage to property over \$300, contributing to the delinquency of a minor and disorderly conduct.

Justin R. Booher, 18, of 309 Green, Rossville, on preliminary charges of disorderly conduct and illegal consumption of alcohol.

Steven A. Keleminic, 18, of 100 Gilbert, Alvin, charged with disorderly conduct.

A 16-year-old boy from Alvin on whom a juvenile petition will be filed for disorderly conduct, illegal consumption of alcohol and resisting arrest.

According to police, those arrested harassed the couple and one suspect jumped on the hood of the couple's car, damaging it. The men fled the scene but were later arrested in the 200 block of North Chicago in Rossville.

Dene was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville; the others were later released.

Deputy continued from other side

This is not Raines' first brush with the law. According to reports, he has served time for theft, burglary and fire-arm offenses. He was paroled in September after serving time for aggravated battery.

In the Hospital

**Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
June 6**

Admitted: Ellis Gillette, Milford.
Discharged: none.

Weather

Partly sunny today. High 78. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 58. Tomorrow partly sunny. High 80, low 62. Sunday, chance of showers. High 80, low 62.

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

p.m. June 18 at the Hoopeston Area High School auditorium. The community is invited to attend.

Congressman's mobile office hours

Congressman Tim Johnson will have mobile office hours in northern Vermilion County on Monday, June 11 and Wednesday, June 13. The schedule will be:

- June 11—
- 9-11 a.m. Rankin village office
- 12-2 p.m. Hoopeston city hall
- 3-5 p.m. Rossville city hall
- June 13—
- 9-11 a.m. Bismarck fire station
- 12-2 p.m. Alvin fire station
- 3-5 p.m. Henning city hall

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RUMMAGE SALES

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Ambia, Ind. town-wide rummage sale, Saturday, June 9. 15 or more families. Sales all around town.

721 S. Market, Hoopeston, in alley. Saturday, June 9, 8-? Furniture, microwave, clothes, misc.

908 W. Main, Hoopeston. June 9 & 10, 7 a.m.-? Cookie jars, salt & pepper shakers, baby furniture.

208 N. Harrison, Rossville. Friday, June 8, 8-? 3 family rummage & moving sale. Clothes, furniture, bedding, knickknacks, bikes, items too numerous to list.

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