

North Fork Conservation Club



Friday 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
At the club
Fish, chicken, shrimp & clam dinners
plus 2 sides **\$5.50**

Don't be left out!

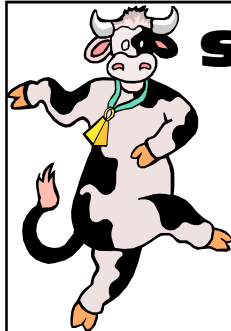
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The most widely-read
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Hoopeston happenings!

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Mail to P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL 60942



Steak Fry

Friday, Feb. 1
5:30-8 p.m.

American Legion

502 E. Penn, Hoopeston
No carry-outs

LEW Financial, Inc.

Payday Advances

620 S. 8th Ave.

217-283-6839

Hoopeston, IL 60942

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Foster home to foster job skills in troubled youngsters

Two Hoopeston men are giving troubled youngsters a new start and providing them with needed vocational skills.

Doug Swisher, who last year announced plans to open a foster home, has opened the home and currently has two foster children at 309 S. Market.

He is joined in the venture by Dan Arcand, owner of D~N~D Maintenance and Air Conditioning, a newly-opened business that will teach job skills to the foster children.

Older foster children will learn basic maintenance and construction from Arcand, who holds a universal HVAC license, Swisher said.

Arcand charges \$25 per hour. Of that, boys will be paid \$6 per hour and may use the money to pay for things not covered by the foster home, such as movies and games, Swisher said. "They can make money as well as learning a trade," he said.

As an incentive to get residents to use their ser-

vices, D~N~D is offering discounted prices for senior citizens and others. Any customer who refers five others to the company will receive a 50 percent discount on their next job, Arcand said.

Since the foster home only accepts children between ages eight and 18, the apprentices will be limited in some areas of hands-on training. For example, because of their age, they will not be able to use power tools but will be able to observe Arcand as he uses the tools of his trade. Foster children will also be limited in the hours they can work since they must also attend school.

Money Arcand earns from D~N~D will help fund the foster home, which ran short of funds after state-level delays in licensing. "I was ready to shut down," Swisher said.

Rather than close the doors before they opened, the men opened the construction company as a way of

See SKILLS on other side

County to be part of 'Keep America Beautiful' campaign

DANVILLE—A volunteer program is getting underway, aimed at cleaning up Vermilion County communities.

Through a cooperative effort, the national Keep America Beautiful program is expected to help improve the appearance of communities across the county.

The program comes from county and local governments facing increasing challenges and decreasing funds, said county recycling coordinator Lynn Wolgast.

State "Keep America Beautiful" coordinators will be in Danville next week to assist representatives from government, business and industry and others learn how to get people involved in clean up projects. An organiza-

tional team of volunteers has been put together who will go through a pre-certification training on Feb. 4. The team will then recruit others to create projects involving their neighbors and others in creating a cleaner, better place for Vermilion County residents.

Area mayors, including Chalmers Flint, have gotten on board, along with mayors of Muncie, Westville, Allerton, Oakwood and Danville, and Vermilion County Board Chairman Todd Lee.

County solid waste funds are being used to cover the initial application fee. Organizational members, including communities, are being asked to help cover costs with a minimum \$100 donation. Hoopeston officials have already approved a donation to the project.

Hoopeston Lions Club

Pancake & Sausage Day

Saturday, Feb. 2

Hoopeston American Legion

Tickets: \$4. Under 6 free

Whole hog sausage available, \$2/lb.,
bulk or patties



COMPTON'S SPORTS BAR & Grill has not been sold!

Steve invites you to try our new catfish
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Our pit is still open!

225 E. Main, Hoopeston (217) 283-5253



Oil Change Special

\$21⁹⁵

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900 West Orange, Hoopeston
(217) 283-5131 (877) 925-5131





Seafood Dinner First Friday of the month Hoopeston VFW

Frog legs, fish, smelt
11 a.m.-1 p.m. 3-7 p.m.
\$5.50/dinner, combo plates \$6.50
Includes cole slaw & baked beans

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Milford

Wellington

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And on the Internet at

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Briefly

Tiny Tots

"Farmers" is the theme of this week's Tiny Tots sponsored by the Hoopeston Public Library. Children will meet at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Hoopeston Multi Agency.

Tiny Tots is for children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

Sweetheart Banquet

The 11th annual senior citizen Sweetheart Banquet will be held at 12:30 p.m. Feb. 14 in the Hoopeston Area High School gym.

Any Hoopeston Area senior citizen who wants to attend is asked to call (217) 283-6668 to make a reservation on or before Feb. 4.

Rules of the Road

A free Rules of the Road review course will be held from 1-3 p.m. Friday, Feb 8 at the Hoopeston city hall conference room. For more information, call 283-5833.

State rep to speak

State Rep. Dan Rutherford of Pontiac will be in Hoopeston Saturday, Feb. 2 to meet with community members to discuss his run for state Senator of the newly formed 53rd District.

Rutherford will meet with local officials and a tour of Hoopeston Regional Health Center at 11:30 a.m. He will be available at 1 p.m. to meet with area residents at the Charlotte Ann Russell Medical Center. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Charlene Drawdy at (217) 283-4243.

Quit smoking

The Vermilion County Health Department is sponsoring free adult tobacco cessation classes during February. Classes are free to anyone living in Vermilion County who is 18 or older. Classes last four weeks.

Threat closes Watseka schools

WATSEKA—A threat made in an Internet chat room closed Watseka schools Tuesday and Wednesday.

The threat, which stated an Illinois school would be blown up Wednesday, was reported by a Minnesota man. The FBI traced the threat to a person using a wireless Internet company in Watseka. The threat is believed to have been made by a teenaged person.

Students were dismissed at 10:45 a.m. Tuesday after law enforcement and school officials discussed the situation.

A bomb-sniffing dog was expected to be brought in Wednesday to search each of the district's four buildings. Officials were unsure whether classes would be held Thursday and urged parents to listen to WGFA radio.

A basketball game Tuesday between Cissna Park-Crescent-Iroquois and Blue Ridge was moved from Crescent City to Cissna Park because of the threat.

Weather



.Showers, thunderstorms today. High 38. Tonight, rain changing to snow. Low 33. Tomorrow, light snow. High 33, low 17.

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

Classes will be held in Hoopeston from 5:30-7 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 11, 18, 25 and Mar. 4 at 847 E. Orange.

For more information, call (217) 431-2662, ext. 302 or 241.

Neighborhood Watch

Judge Claudia Anderson will be the featured speaker at the Hoopeston Police Department's Neighborhood Watch program Feb. 4. She will speak on juvenile issues and problems facing Hoopeston and Vermilion County.

The program will be held at 6 p.m. at Country Terrace.

Police News



A **21-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported Tuesday that her boyfriend refused to return money he was holding for her. The theft happened at Parkview Court.

Classifieds

ADULT CARE

Will do private care for elderly. References available. Call (217) 283-5399.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Brand new 1 bedroom apartment for rent. Utilities furnished. (217) 283-7996.

AUCTIONS

Home to be auctioned. 640 E. McCracken. 2 bedrooms, new windows, sound roof, 65'x 165' lot, 31'x41' garage, good neighborhood. Sat., Feb. 2, 10:30 a.m. DeWitt Auction Co., Hoopeston. Bill DeWitt #040000372. Call for showing, (217) 283-7161. 23-32

HOUSES FOR RENT

3 bedroom house for rent in Hoopeston. Deposit. No pets. (217) 283-7996.

3 bedroom house w/2 car garage. No pets. Deposit required. Newly remodeled. (217) 283-9507. 29-35

WANTED

American Legion is looking for a piano. Call Vickie, (217) 283-6312. 31-tfn

Call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad