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 Saturday, April 12
 8:30-12:30
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 Music by **Hay Wire**

Going to the Firemen's Ball
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 Special will be our 14 oz. rib eye with your
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Reservations requested but not required.
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www.justthefacts.net

Letter to the Editor

Facts needed in dog issue

I would like to respond to the article in the April 2 issue of Just the facts regarding the complaint about pit bulls.

There are several questions regarding these animals that were not answered in the article: do these dogs run loose? Are their shots current? Have they bitten or attacked anyone in the past? If there is no history of aggression by these animals and they are restrained by a fence or chain and well taken care of, there is no reason to fear them. Barking at strangers walking past the dog's territory is natural behavior. I have a black Lab that barks at anyone that walks past but she should not hurt anyone; she is just defending her home.

Sergeant DeWitt's comment that pit bulls are "easily provoked and attack to kill" is a common misconception about the breed. Although some breeds are naturally more aggressive than others it is training and environment that determine a dog's behavior.

As for the city's dangerous animals ordinance, I have this quote from an article I found on the web, "Breed specific legislation does not address the fact that a dog of any breed can become dangerous when bred or trained to become aggressive." Statistics from this article on human fatalities from dog bites include such breeds as collies, west Highland white terriers and Yorkshire terriers.

My concern in writing this letter is, from reading the article, it would appear that decisions might be made based on opinion rather than fact.

I sincerely hope that is not the case.

Debi Ice
 Hoopeston

More on the dog issue

I would like to respond to the "problem" of the

cities American Bulldog, Staffordshire terrier or well-publicized name Pit Bull. Obviously there is a "problem" on East Elm Street.

The problem has been identified so solve that problem. Are they being properly cared for? Are they aggressive/attacking? This is the responsibility of the pet owner. Fine him, charge him, hold the pet owner responsible. However, do not try and hold the entire population responsible for the problem on East Elm Street.

In the recent past, I was conducting business at a local business when I observed a Staffordshire penned in a 10'-12' fenced cage that was literally wall to wall, piles deep of feces. Fine/arrest that individual. Hold them responsible for their pet.

We have a leash law existing that needs to be enforced whether it be a toy poodle or a St. Bernard and no one individual exempt. If further methods/laws are enforced, they need to include, not exclude Rottweilers. They are in the news just as much, if not more, of the isolated tragedies of the millions of dogs in the United States.

While visiting the local veterinarian, I was told there were two Boxers in the next room and that they like to fight. Have there been any dog bites from Boxers in town?

A co-worker owned a German Shepard. They had raised this pet from a pup. It had become a family member. However, while they were having a tree cut down in their yard, the German Shepard momentarily went loco and attacked their daughter. The daughter had vast amount of stitches and lifelong trauma. The dog was put down. What a tragedy.

I hope not one of us ever have to endure such a tragedy from any breed of dog.

Why not take a common sense approach. Take

Behold the lily
 It's time is here



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Bowling Scores			
Thursday Afternoon Ladies		Standings 3/14/03	
Standings 3/20/03		Hoopeston Weather Line	
1.	Carolynn's	130.5	100
	45	65.5	85.5
	33		110.5
2.	Knuth's	124	11 Lazer & Lights
	42.5	72	67
	35.5		129
3.	Gress I	122	
	41		
	37		
4.	Iron House Gym	113	
	39.5		
	38.5		
5.	Pla-Mor		
	36.5		
	41.5		
6.	H&R Block	110	
	29.5	86	
	48.5	109	
High Team Handicap Game: Pla-Mor Lanes 842, Caronlynn's 827, Knuth's 813; High Team Handicap Series: Pla-Mor Lanes 2,396, Knuth's 2,365, Carolynn's 2,350; High Individual Scratch Game: Ramona Birch 216, Sandy Mullen 188, Linda VanBurk 177; High Individual Scratch Series: Ramona Birch 554, Sandy Mullen 485, Marilyn Williams 478.		7. Polson & Company	
Friday Night Mixed League		105.5	
time/		90.5	
See LETTERS on other side		8. Lucky Dogs	
		101.5	
		94.5	
		9. Stone Cold	
		96	

Letters continued from other side
money to effectively train an individual or hire an experienced individual for animal control. Then have the individual enforce the leas law. Fine, arrest delinquent individuals who are ultimately the ones responsible for their pets.
Take measures to solve the problem on East Elm Street. What is holding anyone back?
Peggy Pajor
Hoopeston
Editor's Note: The city's police committee was

Briefly
Meetings
Hoopeston Area School Board reorganizational meeting, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, high school li-

Weather
Chance of snow today. High 45. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 28. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 50, low 32.
For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston Weather Line** at (217) 283-6221.

Masonic Lodge 709 AF&AM
Sausage & Egg Breakfast
Orange Juice, Toast & Coffee
5:30-11 a.m. Saturday, April 12
\$4 donation
Masonic Temple
Rt. 9, Hoopeston



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