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Mother Nature puts soggy blanket on 60th corn festival

Mother Nature put a soggy blanket on Hoopeston for most of the Labor Day weekend, causing several National Sweetcorn Festival events to be cancelled.

The event, sponsored by the Hoopeston Jaycees, ran from Thursday through Monday.

Friday night's truck and tractor pull were cancelled due to the rain, as were Sunday's demolition derby and Monday's antique car show. Flea market and food vendors packed their wares early Monday as cloudy skies indicated rain for the entire day.

"Ducks and fish love this but I don't," said festival chairman Karen Porth on Monday. "It's disappointing not only to the Jaycees but to everyone."

Rain most of Sunday and into Monday affected attendance which, in turn, affected sales of food and flea market items, she said. Sweet corn, normally gobbled up, lay unshucked Monday with few standing in line for the free food.

While McFerren Park will soon dry out, the effects of the wet festival will be felt in the community for several months. Proceeds from the event are used to fund other Jaycee programs, including underprivileged children's Christmas and the senior citizens



Standing water in the McFerren Park annex caused the cancellation of the truck and tractor pull and demo derby at this weekend's National Sweetcorn Festival.

Christmas dinner, Porth said.

It has been a while since rain severely hurt the festival severely. Most recently, in 1981 and 1975, heavy rains cancelled events.

In previous years, the Jaycees purchased insurance to help recoup financial losses from heavy rains. Policies were expensive, Porth said, and were written so that unless rain fell in specific time frames, cancelled events were not covered.

One of the few things rain didn't dampen was the National Sweetheart Pageant.

Kandice Pelletier, Miss Georgia, took the title after Sunday's pageant finals. The 21-year-old student at Kennesaw State University majors in media/performing arts. She performed a dance to "All That Jazz" in the talent competition.

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WitchSchool director to open bookstore in Hoopeston

According to published reports, the director of a witch school that planned to open a campus in Hoopeston will open a bookstore Monday.

Ed Hubbard of WitchSchool was set to open The Broom Closet at 202 S. Market on Monday. Store hours are to be 10 a.m.-7 p.m. seven days a week.

Hubbard planned to open WitchSchool in the former Grant Township Building, in July. He scrapped plans for the school after residents protested the school.

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Police News



No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 11:10 a.m. Wednesday Rtes. 1 and 9. Police said Renee M. Kaufmann of Rankin, in a 2000 Buick and Gregory J. Loster of Byron Center, Mich., in a 1997 Freightliner, were eastbound, merged in the turn lane and collided.

A **55-year-old** Hoopeston man reported Wednesday that someone damaged three windows in the 700 block of East Wyman.

A **14-year-old** Hoopeston lad reported Wednesday that two males took his 20-inch blue Z-Force Schwinn bicycle from a rack at Hoopeston Area High School.

Briefly

Multi Agency van schedule

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency transportation project is: Tuesday, Champaign, (leave at 8 a.m.); Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville. For more information or to arrange a ride, call the Multi Agency at (217) 283-5544.

Community center activities include: Tuesday, ladies



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HOOPESTON

A **28-year-old** woman reported Thursday that someone took her purse from her vehicle in the 200 block of North Third St.

Judy L. Mendoza, 29, of 911 Jewel St., Danville, was arrested at 10 a.m. Thursday in the 700 block of South Market. She was arrested on two Vermilion County warrants for failure to appear and was released on bond.

Pamela S. Crose, 45, of 719 S. Fifth St., was arrested at 11:22 p.m. Thursday at Seminary and North Sixth St. Crose, wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear for jury trial and a Benton County, Ind.,

euchre, noon; Thursday, men's coffee 9:30 a.m., men's euchre, noon; Friday, ladies cards, noon.

Music Booster winners

This week's winners in the Hoopeston Area Music Booster calendar drawing are: Sept. 1, Andrew Hodge; Sept. 2, Ann Schwartz; Sept. 3, Taylor Higgins Ellis Agency, donated back; Sept. 4, Jordan, Karyn & Riley Wyss; Sept. 5, David Olson and Julie Selsor..

Meetings

- Hoopeston City Council, 7 p.m. Tuesday, city hall.
- Hoopeston Area School Board, special meeting to discuss student discipline, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, high school library.

Obituaries

WELLS - Phyllis D. Wells, 68, of Hoopeston, died at 10:55 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28, 2003, at home. family. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, at Westside Church of the Nazarene, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation was 6-8 p.m. Monday at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home and for one hour prior to the services. Memorials are suggested to Hoopeston Community Church of the Nazarene or American Cancer Society.

Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 74, low 59. Tomorrow's high 80, low 54. For current weather conditions, call **(217) 283-6221**.

warrant for failure to appear for charges of trafficking with an inmate, was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville in lieu of \$10,000 bond on the Vermilion County warrant and to await extradition to Indiana.

A **24-year-old** Hoopeston man reported Friday that someone spray painted the driver's side of his truck while it was parked in the 700 block of West Washington.

Elbert W. Cannon, 37, of 229 W. Maple, was arrested at 4:15 p.m. Friday in the 600 block of East McCracken. He was charged with aggravated battery to a child and domestic battery on a complaint from an 11-year-old child. Cannon was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

A **15-year-old** Potomac boy was taken into custody at

Classifieds

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2 bedroom upstairs apt. \$300/mo. Deposit, lease required. (217) 283-7698.

CHILDCARE

Daycare openings. Rossville area. Mother of 2. Flexible hours, fun activities, nutritious meals. For more information, call Jennifer at (217) 748-9978.

HELP WANTED

Daytime Weekend Activities Assistant - Country Terrace Apartments: Country Terrace Apartments, a part of Hoopeston Regional Health Center, is looking for a part time Activities Assistant. The Activities Assistant provides assistance to the apartment tenants in a variety of ways, including overseeing the facility, assisting in the dining room during meal times as well as leading or helping during the activities that are sponsored four our tenants. This position is primarily a weekend position, however, preferred candidates will have the flexibility to fill in during other times. If you enjoy working with people and are available one or more weekends per month from 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, please stop by Hoopeston Regional Health Center, 701 E. Orange St., Hoopeston, Ill.

HOUSES FOR SALE

Hoopeston, willing to sell on contract. 2 story, 4 bedroom, 1.5 baths, garage, fenced back yard. Newer roof & furnace. Owner is Real Estate Licensee. Illiana Real Estate, (217) 283-4644.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Four FORMULA ONE tickets for Sept. 28 in Indianapolis. \$80 each. Great seats by the pits. Call (217) 339-2238

1998Wildwood camper. 25', sleeps six, central air & heat. Stove, oven, microwave, TV, fridge, freezer, toilet, tub & shower. Roll-out awning. Beautiful mirrored cupboards. \$10,500. Call (217) 283-4227.

Amana white refrigerator. 19.5 cu. ft. Nice. \$150. (217) 283-7032.

2 brown swivel rockers, \$60 ea.; hide-a-bed couch, \$75; floral loveseat, \$100; treadmill, \$75; 4 pc. bedroom set, \$200. (217) 283-6917.

RUMMAGE SALES

Moving sale. 883 E. Honeywell, Hoopeston. Sept. 4-5-6. 6 pc. White French provincial bedroom set w/mattress, springs; hide-a-bed, sofa, recliners, chairs, table w/4 chairs, double 4 poster bed w/vanity dresser, general household; tools, some very old; more items added daily.

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