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Machines used to move debris from the Rossville fire site stand idle after cleanup was halted.

Anonymous complaint halts Rossville fire cleanup effort

ROSSVILLE—Debris will remain in Rossville's downtown area for a while longer after an anonymous complaint put a halt to removing charred remains from a Feb. 27 fire.

The Vermilion County Health Department has suspended cleanup efforts because the debris removed thus far was taken to a private site and was not considered "clean."

Officials say some of the debris may have contained asbestos and that there was a mixture of debris, including "clean" kinds of concrete, bricks, rock, and stone and "unclean" debris including car-

peting, metal pipes and wood.

While clean debris may be used on private sites, other types must be placed in landfills.

All the debris was taken to a site owned by Dr. Don Rokosch, said Mayor Terry Prillaman.

Prillaman estimated that approximately 50 semi loads of debris remain at the site with an estimated cost of \$1,000 per load if taken to a landfill. While insurance may pay for cleaning up the site, the cost would leave business owners with few funds for rebuilding.

See **CLEANUP** on other side

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is taking a trip to scenic southern
Wisconsin to **The House on the Rock and
Mineral Point** (an old Cornish mining
town) June 3-5. Cost is **\$325 per person**
(includes everything except 3 meals).

Call any branch for details.

Deadline is May 18!

Briefly

Post meeting

A post meeting will be held at the Hoopeston VFW Tuesday. Dinner will begin at 6 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7 p.m. Election of officers will be held.

Tiny Tots

"Curious George Goes to an Ice Cream Shop" is the theme of this week's Tiny Tots story program at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room. Tiny Tots meets at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 10:30 a.m. Fridays and is for children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

The week of May 21 will be the last Tiny Tots for the season but children will be able to "Explore the Reading Trail" during the Summer Reading Club which begins June 14.

One-act play

Hoopeston Area High School Senior Thespians will present the one-act play "Murder Well Rehearsed" at 6 p.m. Thursday in the high school auditorium.

Cleanup continued from other side

There is a possibility that debris taken to the private site will have to be removed and taken to a land-fill, Prillaman said. That issue is expected to be discussed May 17 when health department officials, along with a representative of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Vermilion County State's Attorney's office meet to discuss what should be done about the private site. Rossville officials and business owners affected by the fire will be invited to the meeting.

Prillaman said he understand the need for environmental regulations but wonders how the village will cope with the cost. "They don't care if you can't afford it," he said.

He also wondered who made the complaint. "It could have been just about anybody - someone who didn't get the bid to remove the debris, someone who had it in for someone...who knows," he said.

Prillaman said since the complaint is similar to an accusation of legal wrongdoing, the village and business owners should be able to face their accuser. Officials will not release the name of the person who made the complaint, he added.

The performance is the kick-off for the annual Fine Arts Festival.

Admission is free. Everyone is invited to attend.

Boater safety course

The Vermilion County Sheriff's Department will hold a free boater safety course from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday, May 22 in the White Oak Nature Center at Kennekuk Cove County Park. Students should bring a sack lunch.

Instructors are deputies Eric Deck and Jeremiah Christian.

Illinois law requires that anyone who is at least 12 and under 18 may only operate a motor boat/personal water craft if they have a valid boating education certificate on them or their craft or if they are accompanied on the

Police News



A local woman reported Sunday that someone took a gazing ball from her yard and broke the ball's stand. The incident occurred in the 200 block of East Thompson.

Joseph C. Cannon, 31, of 6714 E. 3250 North Rd., Potomac, was arrested after an incident that started at 5:03 p.m. Sunday at the intersection of Rtes. 1 and 9.

Police said officers noticed no rear registration plate on a motorcycle Cannon was driving. When officers tried to stop him, they allege Cannon sped up headed south, causing numerous vehicles to swerve out of the way. Cannon stopped just north of 3800 North Rd., where police allege they smelled alcohol on his breath and found cannabis on him.

Cannon was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville on preliminary charges of aggravated fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer, driving under the influence, operating an insured vehicle, possession of cannabis, no valid registration and violation of classification - motorcycle.

Weather



Partly cloudy today and tonight. High 83, low 63. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High 81, low 61.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

craft and the craft is under the direct control of a parent or guardian.

To register or for more information, call the Sheriff's Department at (217) 283-4080.

Benefit set

A benefit for the family of Frank Lindsey will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday at the Hoopeston American Legion, 502 E. Penn. Food and an auction will be featured.

Lindsey died recently, shortly after being diagnosed with lung cancer.

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Vermilion County Housing Authority is accepting applications for public housing. We have locations in Hoopeston, Rossville, Georgetown, Fairmount and Allerton. We are currently taking applications for 3 and 4 bedroom apartments. The VCHA is an income-based rental assistant program. Rent is based on 30% of income. The VCHA pays for water and trash pickup. Stove and refrigerator included. No lawn care required, maintenance department on staff. Some people qualify for more deductions. Deposit and reference required. Applications are accepted at the Rossville office Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. and from 1-3:30 p.m., or by calling (217) 748-6812.

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1995 Kawasaki motorcycle. Black & green. \$1,000. (217)304-4140.

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Call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad.