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**Tuesday, June 15, 2004**  
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## Health department officials find crow with West Nile virus

A dead crow found in Vermilion County has tested positive for West Nile Virus.

The crow was collected in Danville on June 7 and was tested at the University of Illinois School of Veterinary Medicine at Champaign-Urbana, according to an Illinois Department of Public Health press release.

"This is our first confirmation of the year that the virus is here in Vermilion County," said Kolby Riggle, Vermilion County Health Department Environmental

Health Director. "And we will continue to track movement of the virus through birds and mosquitoes."

Riggle said the health department is requesting that when the public finds a dead crow or blue jay they call the environmental health division at (217) 431-2662, ext. 243. If the bird has no evidence of being killed by another animal and is not decomposed, staff will pick the bird up to be tested.

See WNV on other side



## Weekend rain doesn't dampen fishing contest

Heavy weekend rains didn't dampen the enthusiasm of about 100 young people participating Saturday in the fifth annual "Get the Kids Into It" fishing tournament.

Youngsters received free rods, reels and bait, along with refreshments, and got fishing tips from parents, grandparents, older siblings and friends.

Experienced fishermen feared the biting might be bad as rains washed bugs and other fish delicacies into the swollen lagoon. That was not the case, however, as many children reeled out fish after fish.

Winners were to be decided on a point system with five points awarded for each fish caught and an additional point per

See FISH on other side

Gage Fulbright, nine, of Danville, gets a little help from his mom, Shannon Gillespie reeling in a fish at Saturday's "Get the Kids Into It" fishing tournament. The fish was Fulbright's third catch of the morning.

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Briefly

Music Booster winners

This week’s winners in the Hoopeston Area Music Booster calendar drawing are: June 14, Carolyn Eyrich Mastin; June 15, Mike Ward; June 16, Randy and Lindy Lawson; June 17, Heather and Elizabeth Coon; June 18, Bob and Bev Wallace.

Multi Agency van schedule

This week’s schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency transportation project is: Tuesday, Rantoul/Paxton (leave at 9 a.m.); Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville. For information or

WNV continued from other side

In addition to testing crows and blue jays, the county is also using gravid traps to check for Culex mosquito pools. So far, none of the mosquitoes trapped have tested positive for West Nile Virus, Riggle said.

Traps are being rotated weekly around the county and monitored closely to determine the presence of the virus in mosquitoes. Grant money is funding placement of the traps, he said.

A total of 12 birds have been confirmed positive for West Nile Virus in Illinois since surveillance for the mosquito-borne disease began May 1. No human cases have been reported.

In 2003, 75 of the state’s 102 counties had a West Nile positive bird, mosquito, horse or human. Last year, 54 human cases, including one fatality, were reported. In 2002, Illinois led the nation with 884 human cases and 66 deaths, according to the IDPH release.

The virus is transmitted through the bite of a mosquito that has picked up the virus by feeding on an infected bird. Most people with the virus have no symptoms but

Fish continued from other side

inch of each fish. Winners in each age division were:

Six years & under: Cassie Allison, first; Richard Clingenpeel, second; AJ Alwardt, third.

7-10: Samantha Beathy, first; Cody Wilson, second; Dakota Hollis, third.

11-13: Travis Knapp, first; Jesse Jones, second; Jesus Zarate, third.

The contest was sponsored by Oat’s Bait and Tackle Shop, Hoopeston.

a ride, call the Multi Agency at (217) 283 -5544.

Community center activities include: Tuesday, ladies euchre, noon; Thursday, men’s coffee, 9:30 a.m., men’s euchre, noon; Friday, ladies cards, noon.

★

Police News

★

A 70-year-old Hoopeston woman reported Sunday that someone took a ring and undisclosed amount of money from her home in the 200 block of West Chestnut.

A 51-year-old Hoopeston woman reported Sunday

may become ill three to 14 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito.

Ifections can be mild and include fever, headache and body aches or can be severe and marked by headache, high fever, neck stiffness, stupor, convulsions, muscle weakness, paralysis and, rarely, death. Serious West Nile virus illness is most often present in people 50 years of age or older.

To reduce the risk of West Nile disease, the IDPH recommends the following precautions:

- avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are most active, especially between dusk and dawn.
- when outdoors, wear shoes and socks, long pants and long-sleeved shirts and apply insect repellent that includes DEET according to label instructions. Consult a physician before using repellents on young children.
- make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or other openings.
- eliminate all sources of standing water that can support mosquito breeding, including water in bird baths, ponds, flower pots, wading pools, old tires and any other receptacles.

Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 86, low 62. Tomorrow’s high 83, low 60.

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

Meetings

- Hoopeston City Council, 7 p.m. Tuesday, city hall.
- Hoopeston Area School Board, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, high school library.

that she left her purse in the 600 block of West Orange and when it was returned to her, an undisclosed amount of money was missing.

Ryan L. Cade, 24, of 422 E. Seminary, was arrested at 5:44 p.m. Sunday in the 400 block of East Seminary.

Cade, wanted on an Edgar County warrant, was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

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