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Beanie Babies collection to benefit young PUSMC patients

DANVILLE—The Ambulatory Care Unit at Provena United Samaritans Medical Center is swimming in animals -the "beanie" kind - thanks to students from Hoopeston Area Schools.

Last week, Kelsey Stock, a senior at Hoopeston Area High School delivered to the medical center approximately 1,000 new Beanie Babies that had been collected over a two-week time period throughout the elementary, middle, and senior high schools.

"The National Honor Society wanted to do a community service project," said Stock, "and my mom mentioned that they were 'low on Beanies' at work."

Kelsey's mother, Angie Stock, RN, is a nurse in Ambulatory Care.

For years, said the elder Stock, the nurses have personally given Beanie Babies to all their young patients who undergo outpatient surgery, but their supply had dwindled. The idea to make it a project for her daughter's group seemed like a perfect fit.

"We find that the Beanies help provide a sense of comfort for the children who have procedures here," said Patty Rudge, RN, Director of the Ambulatory Care Unit, "It helps them put faith in the care of the nursing



Photo contributed
Hoopeston Area senior Kelsey Stock, Patty Rudge, RN and Angie Stock, RN stand amid Beanie Babies collected by students at Hoopeston Area schools. The collection netted about 1,000 Beanie Babies to be given to patients at Provena United Samaritans Medical Center. Kelsey Stock spearheaded the drive

staff, and reduces their fear and anxiety."

To collect the Beanies, the students placed boxes in all of the area schools. According to Kelsey Stock, the grades that collected the most were fifth and sixth graders at John Greer, who held a competition. The overall number collected in the campaign was a total surprise to Stock.

"We thought we would be lucky if we got a hundred. To get 1,000 was just awesome," she said.

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Bidder's Conference to be held Feb. 7-8 to provide youth activities in Vermilion County

The Vermilion County Workforce Investment Board (VCWIB) and the Vermilion County Job Training Partnership will host a Bidder's Conference on Tuesday, February 7, 2006 from 9 a.m.-11 a.m., open to walk-ins or on Wednesday, February 8, 2006 by appointment only at the IETC 407 N. Franklin St. Danville.

The event is for those interested in being a youth service provider for the Local Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title I Youth Program for Program Year July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007.

The Vermilion County WIA Youth Request for Proposal was released to the public January 30, 2006 and is available online at www.vermilioncountyietc.com or by contacting the Vermilion County Job Training Partnership office at (217) 442-3044 Ext. 233.

VCWIB identifies eligible providers of youth activities by awarding grants or contracts on a competitive basis based on the recommendation of the VCWIB Youth Council.

Funds are available to service providers that are most

likely to enable youth to be successful in achieving their educational, employment, and career goals. The intentions of the youth funds are to improve youth programs linked more closely to local labor market needs with strong connections between academic and occupational learning, including youth activities to promote youth development, citizenship and employment success.

The Youth Program targets the population for low-income youths ages 14-21 that meet the following criteria: deficient in basic literacy skills, school dropout, pregnant or a parent, truancy, substance abuse, offender, physical disability, learning disability, mental illness, developmental disability, need for pre-employment and work maturity, workplace skill deficient as defined by standardized assessment, living in a single parent household, or living with a person who is not a legal guardian (for ages 14-17).

WIA allows a five percent window for those that do not meet the minimum income requirements, but fall under one or more of the following categories: school

dropout, basic skills deficient, educational attainment that is one or more grade levels below the grade level appropriate to the age of the individual, pregnant or a parenting, physical disability, learning disability, mental illness, developmental disability, homeless or runaway, offenders, those that face serious barriers to employment as identified by the local Workforce Investment Board.



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Second Chance Saloon

102 N. Market, Hoopeston

Briefly

Financial aid night

Hoopeston Area High School and Danville Area Community college will host a College Financial Aid night from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9 in the Hoopeston Area High School computer lab.

HAHS guidance counselor Kay Brown and DACC staff will be available to help with filling out FAFSA forms and answering questions.

Sweetheart Banquet

The 15th annual Senior Citizen Sweetheart Banquet will be held at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10 in the Hoopeston Area High School gym. The event is sponsored by the drama department and student council.

Hoopeston Area or Rossville senior citizens who want to attend must make reservations at 283-6668 by Feb. 3.

Police News



An owner of Convenience Food Mart, 714 W. Orange, reported Tuesday that someone forced open a soda machine outside the business and took an undetermined amount of money.

Neighborhood Watch

Shannon Ruh, Peace Corps Fellow for economic development, will be the featured speaker at the Feb. 6 Hoopeston Neighborhood Watch meeting.

The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. at Country Terrace. Everyone is invited to attend.

Free day at YMCA

Danville Family YMCA will be offering a "Free" Active Older Adult Day from 9:30-10:30 a.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8. For more information, call Teresa at 442-0563 #14.

Music Booster meeting

Hoopeston Area Music Boosters will meet at 7 p.m. Monday in the chorus room. All parents of Hoopeston Area music students are encouraged to attend.

Weather



Partly cloudy today and tonight. High 46, low 31. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 47, low 35.

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

Classifieds

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