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This single engine 1976 Piper made an emergency landing Sunday north of Milford. The pilot and passenger were unhurt.

Small plane makes emergency landing north of Milford

MILFORD—Last weekend marked Fun Days in Milford but Sunday proved anything but for a Chicago area pilot.

Joseph Tomes, 46, of Palos Park was piloting the plane. He and passenger Aregi Standohar, 44, were not hurt.

According to reports, the plane put down on Iro-

quois County Road 1170 East, just east of Rt. 1. A crosswind caught the plane and spun it into a field.

The 1976 Piper fixed wing, single engine plane is registered to Wade Palmer Enterprises of Chicago Heights.

The incident occurred at about 1 p.m. Sunday, according to reports

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Letters to the Editor



Praise for our firemen...

I wanted to take a moment to show my appreciation for the local fire department and all that they do. I know that many of you have seen the work that has been going on at the fire department, however many are not aware of what hard work has gone into this new addition to the fire department.

For weeks now our local volunteer fireman have been dedicating their time and skill into assembling this new addition. Most of our fireman have full time jobs, families as well as fire calls to attend to, but they are still willing to sacrifice the few hours of free time to make our community a better place.

In addition to building on to the fire department, they are constantly working on grants and ways that they can make our local fire department better. They have received grants for new equipment and have also attended specialized trainings and testing that are able to give all of us local homeowners a better rating for our home insurance, which saves us money!

I just wanted to take a minute to recognize all of their hard work and dedication and to say thank you for all that you do. Your hard work and efforts are what living in small town is all about and what makes people like myself proud to live here.

Megan Deck Hoopeston

...And for storm cleanup

I would just like to commend the Hoopeston Streets and Alleys workers, Ameren/CIPS workers, fire and police department, other workers, and volunteers who were involved in cleaning up after Sunday's storm. Your hard work and time is greatly appreciated. Sincerely,

Kathy Vines Rural Hoopeston

Who is responsible for our economic crisis?

We may not remember the crisis down on the farm a couple decades back. I am sure most folks involved in farming in some manner do. Our government speculated that our farm land was of more value than it turned out to be worth. Loans were approved to farmers for improvements, expansion, and costly equipment based on this

speculation, and when a lot of farmers could not make their payments, there were mass foreclosures. Farms that had been family-owned for over a century were no longer theirs. A craft that began before the birth of this nation was not the same anymore. Speculation is not collateral!

Then there was the rise and fall of the stock market. Do you remember when it began? It's still falling. Lots of folks lost their retirement funds with that one. Of course, speculation is a big part of the stock market, but how many moms and pops in the workforce really know that much about the stock market? Someone made money, but it wasn't the little stock holder.

At about the same time, a lot of manufacturing companies began downsizing or just plain closed factories in the U.S. and relocated them in foreign countries, putting multitudes of people out on the streets. Those companies that stuck around wanted to take your health care, retirement, and other benefits away from you! Lot of speculation, but no compassion! CEOs and other big executives from these companies are getting the biggest raises, perks, bonus', golden parachutes, and other benefits this year, more than ever before, somewhere in the tune of half a billion dollars. What color is your parachute and how much will you receive from these big profits?

So at this point, you have had your job and benefits, your health care, and your retirement nest egg taken away from you. Could it get any worse? Oh yes, it could!

For years, lenders have speculated that the housing boom would last forever, and they overvalued homes, just like the farmers' land had been over valued many years before. Now homeowners would suffer the same foreclosures that the farmers went through. Do you see a pattern here? Speculation is not collateral!

If you worked 1,000 hours overtime each of the last five years, and when setting up your family budget for this year, if you included overtime, that would be speculation. Speculation is nothing more than a hope or a dream.

We now have a new crisis (it really began back in the Nixon era): the price, availability of gas, and how it effects us overall. Oil companies have raked in heavy profits for many years, and little or nothing was invested

in new refineries, or the fixing up of old refineries to be more productive to come close to meeting this nations demands. If the use of gas only affected your families' entertainment and recreational trips, that would be one thing. It affects everything that has to be trucked to your city, special services, and your commute to work You already know how the price of everything has risen. Are we again seeing the effects of how speculation can effect us with this gas crisis?

For more than 40 years, our government has known that a gas crisis existed. Why haven't they done something about it? Evidently, we have not sent the right people to Washington that were smart enough, or had the backbones to correct this situation.

What do we do now? Not much we can do, except scream at our politicians to start doing their jobs and protect us! Our government has departments of health, agriculture, labor, housing, transportation, commerce, and many others that are supposed to oversee and insure that these crises do not occur. There are nearly 500 elected officials and many secretaries and under secretaries in the executive branch that are being paid to handle these problems. Don't you think it is about time that they earn their salaries?

We have protection against war with other nations, but we don't have protection against the war within our own nation. Is this what our founding fathers intended for us? To oversee the world, but ignore our own problems?

In the history of this world, no country has assisted so many nations more than this country. We help other countries better than we help our own citizens who are misfortunate. Whether it is for protection, health, or humanitarian reasons, we have always been there, even private citizens collect money for catastrophic reasons, for any foreign country. So no one can say that this country is not compassionate to other needy countries.

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 80. Tonight, chance of thunderstorms. Low 61. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High 87, low 65.

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

Don't you think it is about time that our leaders begin to take care of their own citizens? After all, we are the people, they are only our representatives. The only way that we the people can make sure that they understand this, is to keep reminding them using a loud voice.

Tom Evans Hoopeston

Obituaries

BIRCH - Earlene Birch, 81, of Milford died at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 21, 2008 at home. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Ludlow Migrant Head Start is seeking applications for Education Coordinator, Teacher, Teacher Assistant, Disability Coordinator, Cook and Bus Aides. Bilingual preferred but not required. Send resume to joanmoser@hotmail.com or P.O. Box 136, Wellington IL 60973 or fax to (815) 984-4500. Call Ludlow office, (217) 396-0213, or Wellington office, (815) 984-3706, for any questions Positions are opened until filled. EOE

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1 mi. west of Rossville. Sat., June 28, 8:30-? McVicker moving sale. Furniture, clothes, toys, antiques, books, shoes and much more.

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