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Hoopeston firemen battle a garage fire at the home of Jeremy and Sara Furrow, 510 W. Washington. Firemen were already at Routes 1 and 9 fighting a hay wagon fire when they received the call about the garage fire. Hoopeston Fire Department fights simultaneous blazes

Members of the Hoopeston Fire Department were stretched thin Sunday afternoon after firefighters received two calls about 20 minutes apart.

The department was first called at 12:21 p.m. to the intersection of Routes 1 and 9 for a hay rack on fire. While fighting that blaze, a second call at 12:41 p.m. sent some firemen to 510 W. Washington, where a garage and shed owned by Jeremy and Sara Furrow was fully engulfed.

"This is the second time in the 20 years that I've been

on the department that we had two fires at the same time," Fire Chief Cliff Crabtree said Monday.

Of the 17 members of the department, about 15 responded to the hay fire. When the second call came, Assistant Chief Joel Bird and several firefighters went to the garage fire. In addition, mutual aid was requested from Rossville and Wellington-Greer departments.

According to witnesses, the cause of the hay fire is believed to be a blown tire that sent sparks flying into See BLAZES on other side



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Hoopeston Fire Department, with mutual aid from Rossville and Wellington-Greer departments, fought simultaneous fires Sunday afternoon. Called to Routes 1 and 9 for a rack of hay on fire, the department was then called to 510 W. Washington for a garage on fire.

#### Blazes continued from other side

the hay, Crabtree said.

The hay rack, owned by Lou Alwardt of Hoopeston, was destroyed, as was the hay it carried.

Sparks are also believed to be the cause of the garage fire. A battery in a truck in the garage reportedly sparked, causing the blaze.

Crabtree estimated damage from the garage fire at \$25,000 to \$30,000, including the garage and attached shed, siding on the back side of the Furrow home and that



#### of a neighbor's.

No serious injuries were reported; however one fireman was taken to Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital as a precaution for possible heat exhaustion.

Despite fighting two fires in hot weather, Crabtree said the experience showed the goodness of local people who brought bottles of water for the firemen to drink. "That's one nice thing about living in Hoopeston," he said. "There's always somebody there to help."



# Area paranormal activity group to present library program

The Illiana Paranormal Society will present a program on the group and its work in paranormal investigation at 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 7, at Hoopeston Public Library, 110 N. Fourth Street.

DJ Walker, the group's communication director, videographer and phychic consultant, will show a video on the group's activities and also share evidence collected during past investigations.

The IPS was formed in 2007 by two friends with a love for the paranormal and an interest in finding the truth about the world of the paranormal. Since then, the group has grown to more than 30 members. Their goal is to prove, through scientific evidence, that the paranormal world does, indeed, exist.

Since 2008, the group has conducted more than 20 investigations into suspected paranormal activities at locations around east central Illinois, and as far away as Chicago and Louisville, Kent. IPS has investigated numerous private homes and businesses but has also had the privilege of investigating some of the most haunted locations in America, such as the Waverly Hills Sanatorium in Louisville.

This program will be geared towards an audience age of seventh grade through adult. For more infor-

## Letters to the Editor

## Request from street/alley supervisor

To the citizens of Hoopeston: If you have an alley, please put your yard waste,

brush, etc., in the alley. The City cleans alleys twice a year, spring and fall.

If you don't have an alley, we understand putting it on the parkway.

Thank you.

Wade Gocking Street/Alley Supervisor

## Weather

Sunny today. High 77. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 54. Tomorrow, Sunny. High 77, low 53. For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (**217**) **283-6221**.

mation, call the library at (217) 283-6711. For more information on IPS, visit their website, www.illianaparanormalsociety.com.

### **Court Dispositions**



Robin Irvin, Hoopeston, status check July 1.

Adeana Rossolille, Rankin, case continued generally.

Elizabeth Boyne, Hoopeston, status check July 1.

**Skylar Pickett**, Wellington, given 38 hours of public service work in lieu of \$300 fine; status hearing August 5.

**Bradley Boyne**, Hoopeston, status check September 2.

**Douglas Land Jr.,** Hoopeston, status check July 1. **Kay Irvin**, Hoopeston, status check July 1.

**Trinidad Hernandez Jr.**, Hoopeston, status check September 2.

Traci Thilmony, Urbana, status check July 1.

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