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Random Acts of Kindness

By BERTHA PARSONS

Have you ever done a kindness to someone for no reason? Not a birthday, anniversary, illness or retiring. You sent a card, made a phone call, bought a gift, just because you cared.

Not long ago, a very dear friend was telling me about a child without a good pair of tennis shoes and a good shirt. Her kind heart asked the Mother if she could give the boy shoes and a shirt. The Mother and boy were so happy by this random (for no reason) act of kindness. Plus my friend smiled all day!

This week I received a lovely thank you card from someone I hardly know, telling me she appreciated me; it came on a day when I really needed to be loved.

Can you think of a random (by accident or a fluke) act of kindness you could do this month?

Maybe just one or be a real Good Samaritan and do two!

There are many people who could use your smile, your call saying you're thinking of them. Maybe a letter with \$5 to someone who is struggling, or you take someone for coffee or a soda just because.

As I am out and about in our caring communities, I notice a lot of random acts of kindness. Churches going out of their way to offer services and classes and showing love. I see clubs and organizations working to improve your community. I see businesses with great bosses and CEOs showing kindness to their employees. Each community has a city council working to improve our city.

You know the old saying, "It takes a spark to start a fire" well; you can be a "spark" and keep the fire of kindness burning. My Mother spoke to everyone she saw, it did not matter what color, age or how they dressed. Why, I wondered, did she do that? She said, I might be the only kind words that person hears today. I have never forgotten that.

What unselfishness we all can enjoy by practicing at least one Random Act of Kindness each week or more often if the opportunity presents itself. Let's go for it!

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LA CASA DEL SOL SPECIALS

Tuesday: **Enchiladas Mexicanas \$7.99** or **Quesadilla Fajita \$7.99**

Saturday: **Carnitas \$8.25** or **Pollo Mex \$8.25**

Draft Beer 28 oz. \$3.50 or **45 oz. \$5**

1010 W. Chestnut, Hoopeston IL

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Lourdine Florek, owner

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John Kincade, of Sheldon, cuts through steel to take down the catwalk between the east and west sides of the Downtown Motel Sunday evening.

Motel catwalk taken down, may be used over drainage ditch

What many consider Hoopeston's "bridge over troubled waters" has been taken down.

The catwalk between the east and west portions of the Downtown Motel was removed Sunday evening by John Kincade, of Sheldon.

An ad looking for someone to dismantle and remove

the catwalk was posted on the Champaign-Urbana Craigslist almost two weeks ago. Kincade received the catwalk for doing the work and planned to sell it someone in the Sheldon area to put across a drainage ditch.

Kincade and an assistant cut through the steel that con-

See CATWALK on other side

VFW Menu
 Orange & 4th Ave., Hoopeston
Wednesday Wings by Sylvia
 are back - 5p-8p
Tacos by Norma
 Thursdays 11a - 2p & 5p - 8p
 *No call-in orders from 5p - 8p

Scholarship Cookout
 We'll have
Ribs on the Grill
 Thursday
 4-6:30 p.m.

Hoopeston IGA 1030 W. Chestnut
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Briefly
Tiny Tots to start
 Hoopeston Public Library will kick off fall with Tiny Tots story time at 10:30 a.m., Friday, Sept. 18. Tiny Tots is a 30-minute weekly program for toddlers and preschoolers and their parent/caregiver and features stories, a short video and other surprises. All local families are invited to attend.
 For information, call the library at 217-283-6711.



Seven-year-old Keagan Hall, of Hoopeston, watched Sunday as the Downtown Motel catwalk was removed. Keagan was the last one to walk across it after it was taken down but still owned as part of the motel.

Catwalk continued from other side
 nected the walkway on each side. Then, Chad Ray, using a sky lift, lowered it to the ground.
 Hoopeston Police were called to block traffic from going between the motel buildings as work was being done.
 The Downtown Motel has been a point of contention for some residents who allege tenants there - or guests of tenants - have spit and urinated from the catwalk, had sexual relations on it and harassed residents going into local businesses from the perch.

Girl Scout kickoff
 An open house to sign girls up for Girl Scouts will be held from 6-7 p.m. Thursday at First Presbyterian Church, 915 E. Orange. Girls in grades kindergarten-third can sign up for Daisy Scouts or Brownie Scouts.
 For questions, call Katie Clayton, (217) 474-7811 or email hoopestongirlscouts@gmail.com.

Historical society to meet
 Hoopeston Historical Society will meet Saturday, Sept. 19, noon for a Potluck lunch at McFarland's Museum on Route 1. Bring your own tableware and a dish

Sheriff's department, DEA to sponsor medication collection Sept. 26

DANVILLE—Vermilion County Sheriff's Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will hold a medication collection form 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26.

Residents may bring pills or patches for disposal to the Vermilion County Courthouse at 7 N. Vermilion Street, Danville. The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, only pills or patches. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

The National Prescription Drug Take-Back addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Many Americans are not aware that medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are at alarming rates, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that many abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, many Americans do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medicine, often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away - both potential safety and health hazards.

In previous Take-Back events nationwide from 2010-2014, 4,823,251 pounds, or 2,411 tons of drugs were collected by the DEA and more than 4,400 of its state and local law enforcement partners.

Additional information is available on the health de-

Weather
 Sunny today. High 81. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 55. Tomorrow, sunny. High 84, low 60.

to share. Take a tour of the museum.
Animal shelter fundraiser
 The Hangout, 106 E. Jones, Milford, will host a fundraiser for Hoopeston Animal Shelter from 5-8 p.m. Saturday. The event will feature plain or BBQ pulled pork sandwich, baked beans, slaw and chips for \$7.
 A silent auction will also be held. Donations for that are being accepted by Sherry Klemme, Hoopeston Animal Control officer; Hoopeston Animal Control's Rescue Efforts and Animal Awareness, Karen Brasel or The Hangout.

partment's website at www.vchd.org, or by calling the health department at 431-2662, ext. 243.

Classifieds

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RUMMAGE SALES
 HOPESTON: St. Anthony Parking Lot Sale. Sat., 7-noon. Gently used furniture, bedding, kitchenware, toys, books, tools and more! All donations serve needy families in the Hoopeston area.

Email publish@justthefacts.net or call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad!