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By
BERTHA PARSONS

Let's Party! Let's Laugh! Let's Be Happy!

No matter how hard things were, my Mother was always happy! She said, "Only you can truly make you happy." Don't count on a spouse, a child, friend or neighbor. All great people that you may like but they too are looking for "happy".

I loved having parties as a Tupperware dealer for nine years. I partied often. A party can be any kind, any time and any place. I learned that the fun and laughter was in the getting people together for the party! Now it's been more than a year since we were told not to party together. Forget it!

What we need is to laugh more, laugh at others, (but carefully), laugh at ourselves. I do that almost daily. When laughing at others, it is usually something they said or a silly action they did. I steer away from laughing at mistakes they made, because I make plenty of mistakes that they could laugh at and I would not like it at all.

Have you ever lost something, your keys, a picture, dress from your closet, your wallet? Well, I've lost all of these items one time or another. When I found them, I couldn't stop laughing! One was in the refrigerator, another was found in the freezer, one was in the wrong closet and there's one I'm still looking for! Do you know where it is?

Laughter is the medicine that heals any illness, at least for half an hour or so. It can't help but make us happy! My Mother would start laughing at nothing. When asked "What is so funny?" the answer was always the same, "It just makes me feel good!" On this very day I can see her sitting at our table with all the family and she starts laughing. Guess what? Pretty soon we are all laughing at who knows what or why! Boy, it makes us feel great!

Then comes the party. Any day you can make a party, sure birthday, anniversary, easy peazy! How about a backwards party, wear an item backwards. A PJ party, all guests wear PJ's, a gown, whatever they sleep in. A crazy outfit party! Laughing and crazy kinda go together!

Happy just shows up and before you know it here comes laughter, so hard you think you might be sick! No, it's just joy spilling out into your world! So let's party, laugh and be happy! It's all up to us! We can do it!

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Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

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County mitigation planning committee to meet February 23

DANVILLE—The frequency of and damages caused by severe storms and other natural and manmade hazards in Vermilion County will be discussed by a new committee on Thursday, February 23.

The Vermilion County Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee will meet at 6 p.m. at the Courthouse Administration Building, 201 N. Vermilion. The meeting will be held on the second floor.

The committee is made up of county, municipal, educational and health care representatives, as well as technical partners and others. The group will meet over the next several months to update the Vermilion County All Hazards Mitigation Plan. All committee meetings are open to the public.

"The goal of this committee meeting is to identify how often severe weather events occur within the county and

what kinds of damages have resulted," said Russell Rudd, county Emergency Management Agency director. "Based on this information, we will begin to compile lists of activities and projects to reduce damages caused by these events," he said.

The focus of the effort is on natural hazards—severe thunderstorms with damaging winds or hail, tornadoes, snow and ice storms, floods, drought and excessive heat.

Those interested can provide input at these meetings or submit comments and questions to their appropriate representatives, Rudd said.

Participants to date include Vermilion County, Alvin, Danville, Fairmount, Muncie, Oakwood, Sidell, Tilton, Danville Area Community College, NAACP of Vermilion County, OSF Sacred Heart Medical Center, United

See COMMITTEE on other side



Fired up

A Hoopeston fireman hurries to enter The Pit Stop restaurant at Fast Lanes, 719 W. Elm, after the department responded at 4:33 p.m. Saturday to a fire in the kitchen. Fire Chief Joel Bird said the fire was contained to behind the grill area. Owner Doug Wagoner praised Rick Birch for his quick response, grabbing a fire extinguisher and snuffing the flames. Wagoner, coach of Hoopeston Area's bowling teams, was at regionals competition when the fire occurred. Bird said Birch's hand was examined by Arrow Ambulance crew at the scene. Hoopeston Police also responded. The Pit Stop was closed to dining Saturday night and again Sunday for cleaning.

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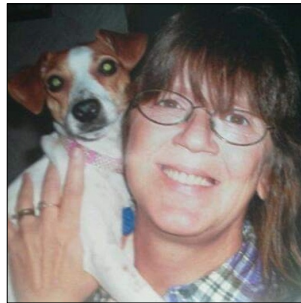


COMPTON - Trudy A. Compton, 62, of St. Joseph, passed away at 5:05 p.m. Thursday, February 2, 2023, at Carle Foundation Hospital, in Urbana.

Trudy was born July 16, 1960, in Fairbury, the daughter of George and Beverly (Houser) Swartz. She married Terry Compton on August 27, 2011, in Cissna Park. He survives.

She is also survived by five daughters, Elizabeth Harris of Danville, Amber Compton of Danville, Ashley Compton of Champaign, Angie (Kevin) Strawser of Hoopeston and Sierra Tuttle of Colfax; two sons, Robert (Destany) Tubbs of Hoopeston and Travis (Brittany) Compton of Mesquite, Tex.; 13 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, previous husband, C. Steven Tubbs; two sisters, Tammy (Steve) Boen and Pam Swartz and four grandchildren.



TRUDY COMPTON

Committee continued from other side

Way and Vermilion Advantage. Jurisdictions that have yet to participate in a committee meeting are encouraged to attend.

“The plan will be our best resource for determining to prepare for storms and other natural and manmade hazards,” Rudd said. “After the plan is updated, comprehensive information will be available in one document to help guide those who are making decisions about how to better protect Vermilion County residents.”

The mitigation plan, announced in October 2022, is funded through a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant. Rudd said by having an updated plan, participating jurisdictions would become eligible for federal funds to construct these projects. The group first met October 27.

Weather

Slight chance of rain, then partly sunny today. High 49. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 29. Tomorrow, chance of rain. High 46, low 33.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.

Obituaries

Trudy attended Hoopeston High School and graduated from DACC, with her nursing degree. She worked as a CNA at Country Health in Gifford and Heartland Nursing Home in Paxton. She most recently worked at Rural King, in Rantoul. Trudy was a member of the St. John's Lutheran Church, in Flatville. She enjoyed fishing, playing the guitar, collecting angels, jewelry and tea sets, crocheting, going on vacations and she loved watching wrestling on TV.

A Celebration of Trudy's Life will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at Blurton Funeral Home, in Hoopeston. Visitation will be from 10 to 11 a.m.

Sports

Basketball

Hoopeston Area defeated Armstrong-Potomac, 61-43, in away action Friday. Owen Root was the leading scorer with 15, followed by Anthony Zamora and Kendrick Sigerill each with 12 points. Preston VanDeVeer had seven, Wyatt Eisenmann five, and Ethan Steiner rounded out the scoring with four. Zamora led the team with six deflections and six steals.

The Cornjerker JV team battled all night long and fought until the end. The Cornjerkers got a big stop with five seconds left and Christian Kirts had a great look at a three pointer that would have sent the game into overtime. Dylan Judy led the team in scoring with 15, Brayden Walder had seven, Christian Kirts five, Parker Watson and Cole Miller with four each. Zach Huchel and Keenon Anderson added three each.

Hoopeston Area will travel to Watseka on Tuesday for throwback night.

Ball signups announced

Signups for the upcoming baseball and softball seasons have been announced.

Hoopeston Area Softball Association will hold signups starting this week. Dates and times are Wednesdays, Feb. 8, 15 and 22, from 5-7 p.m. and Sundays, Feb. 12, 19 and 26 from 1-3 p.m., at Hoopeston City Hall.

Hoopeston Area Youth Baseball will hold signups on Saturdays, February 11, 18 and 25 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and Sundays February 12, 19 and 26 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at 112 Wine & Coffee Shop.

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Wednesday, at the funeral home. She will be laid to rest following the services in Floral Hill Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital or H.A.R.T.

The family has entrusted the Blurton Funeral Home to assist them in honoring Trudy's life. Condolences may be shared with the family on her everlasting memorial page at: www.BlurtonFuneralHomes.com.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

The City of Hoopeston is accepting applications for the temporary positions of Assistant Manager and Lifeguard for the 2023 swim season for the McFerren Park Public Swimming Pool. Applications and job descriptions are available online at www.cityofhoopeston.com/employment/ and at City Hall, 301 W Main St. Please contact Kristi Hudson, 217-663-9617 or City Hall, 217-283-5833 for questions. Application deadline is Friday, February 17, 2023.

The Vermilion Housing Authority in Hoopeston is hiring a Maintenance Mechanic, starting pay \$20/hr. Applications available online at www.vermilionhousing.com.

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is hiring 2nd Shift Compounders, \$20/hour. Applications available onsite at www.full-fill.com. EOE

Silgan Containers is hiring Press Operators. Please apply online at: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13375

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MILFORD CROSSROADS YOUTH CENTER is seeking a DIRECTOR., Flexible Hours. Working with youth in grades 2-10. Applications available at Milford Building & Loan, Milford Village Hall or on Facebook at Milford Crossroads Youth Center. Contact Rod at (815) 471-4634. Immediate start date.

City of Hoopeston Police Department is taking applications for certified police officers/part time certification is recognized. Applications will be ongoing; no deadline applies for certified officers.

Cade's Heating and Air seeks a HVAC service/ installer tech. IL DR license required and Freon license preferred. Must have mechanical ability. HVAC experience preferred. send resume to: ramcade@frontier.com:101 E Penn St. Hoopeston, Starting pay based on experience.