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Visioning for the Future committee reveals survey results

And the survey says....

The Visioning for the Future committee hosted an open meeting Monday night to list results of a community-wide survey sent to residents in February.

A total of 341 people responded to the survey, which measured the satisfaction level with the community and asked for input on ways to make Hoopeston better. Results from the survey include:

- 79.1 percent of those responding believe attracting a prison should be the highest priority, followed by attracting manufacturing businesses, new retail businesses, supporting and expanding existing businesses, attracting new service businesses, preserving and promoting agriculture/agribusiness, promoting new residential develop-

ment and promoting tourism.

- residents rated a lack of clear vision and plan as the biggest potential obstacle to economic development. Other large obstacles listed include the transportation system and a lack of teamwork among people living in the community. The lack of high-paying jobs, poor political leadership and the attitude of residents were seen by residents as the most important barriers to economic development. Only 17 respondents, or 7.2 percent, cited the city's odor as an economic barrier but 35.6 percent listed odor as something they didn't like.

- more than 55 percent of respondents said they spend at least half their retail shopping dollars outside Hoopes-

See SURVEY on other side



Photo by Lourdine Florek

And the walls came tumbling down

City workers raze a burned-out house in the 500 block of North Market Monday. Although this house was demolished by the city, officials are reexamining that policy as way to save money.

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A **53-year-old** Hoopeston man reported Sunday that someone removed a door from 1115 W. Orange.

Aaron M. Linares, 18, of 813 E. McNeil, was arrested at 11:15 p.m. Sunday in the 100 block of First Ave.

He was charged with aggravated battery on a complaint from an 18-year-old Hoopeston man who reported Linares struck him in the face.

Survey continued from other side

- ton. Nearly 70 percent said they shop outside Hoopeston once or twice monthly and as often at least once a week for items available in Hoopeston.
- as for community appearance, most graded the schools and parks as excellent and streets, roads, neighborhood housing and entrances to the community as good. The overall appearance of the town, housing, downtown area and industrial properties were rated satisfactory.
- 58.4 percent responded that instilling a stronger sense of pride in the community through volunteering to clean up the town and neighbors helping each other take care of property can improve the overall appearance of business and residential property. 25.6 percent believed that direct government intervention through zoning laws and enacting and enforcing stricter ordinances would improve the overall appearance.
- 92 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed that they are satisfied with things the way they are; 82 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed that Hoopeston's future is bright.

Obituaries

EVANS—Frances Almeda Evans, 93, of Hoopeston, died at 1:20 p.m. Sunday, June 17, 2001 at Hoopeston Community Nursing Home. Arrangements are pending at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home.

INGRAM—John L. Ingram, 62, of Milford, died at 12:54 p.m. Sunday, June 17, 2001 at Iroquois Memorial Hospital, Watseka. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial will be in Rossville Cemetery. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

Police News



The 18-year-old was taken to Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital for treatment.

Linares was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await a hearing.

Samantha K. Tyler, 17, of 1013 W. Main, was arrested at 10:31 p.m. Sunday.

She was charged with battery on a complaint from a 17-year-old woman who told police Tyler struck her in

the head, neck and chest. The incident occurred at 200 E. Main.

Tyler was arrested at her home and was released on a notice to appear.

A **22-year-old** Hoopeston man reported at 10:22 p.m. Sunday that he had been battered by a man he could not identify.

The incident occurred in the 100 block of East Main.

- more than 93 percent agreed or strongly agreed that more resources should be devoted to developing new jobs. 51.1 percent thought a city manager should be hired to oversee economic development and 67.8 percent said development should focus on small and medium-sized businesses.
- 51.1 percent thought elected officials were doing a

In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital June 14

Admitted: none.

Discharged: Meda Evans, Geneva Nelson.

June 15

Admitted: Pamela Barker, Wilbert Gudeman, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Wilbert Gudeman.

June 16

Admitted: Charlotte Rudd, Gerald Powley, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Pamela Barker.

June 17

Admitted: Gene Sheagley, Katherine Bobis, Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

Weather



Mostly cloudy, cooler, chance of thunderstorms today and tonight. High 85, low 60. Tomorrow, chance of early thunderstorms. High 77, low 55.

For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston Weather Line** at (217) 283-6221.

good job of managing the city; however, a slim majority said community leaders did not do a good job of keeping residents informed on important events and issues and 20.1 percent cited the attitude of political/community leaders, business owners and residents as one of the things they liked least about Hoopeston.

• more than 89 percent believe the school district is performing well.

• while residents pointed out what they didn't like about Hoopeston, they also listed things they do like, including small town atmosphere, excellent health/school/parks systems, friendly people.

Classifieds

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