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## Money to ease nursing shortage part of governor's plan

CHAMPAIGN—A plan to help curb a regional nursing shortage was touted by state officials Friday at the University of Illinois.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich unveiled an economic development plan for East Central Illinois as part of his *Opportunity Returns* program.

One of the components of the plan includes a \$180,000 Critical Skills Shortage Initiative grant to ease the nursing shortage.

Locally, Hoopeston Regional Healthcare Danville Area Community College will benefit from the grant, which was officially announced May 19.

Other hospitals included in the area are Provena Covenant Medical Center, Carle Foundation Hospital, Gibson Area Hospital, Iroquois Memorial Hospital, Veterans Administration, Illiana Healthcare Systems, Prairie Center Health Systems. The other educational partner is Parkland College.



BLAGOJEVICH

Local Workforce Investment Boards will oversee the money, including one in Danville.

Speaking Friday at the iCyt building in the University of Illinois Research Park, Blagojevich outlined his plan for region, which includes Vermilion, Iroquois, Champaign, Piatt, Douglas and Ford counties.

The 32-point plan focuses on five areas: business attraction, promoting entrepreneurship, strengthening job training, supporting infrastructure and investments in agriculture, energy and the environment.

Champaign will be the big winner in the multi-million dollar plan with several projects started to planned for the U of I.

Besides the Critical Skills Shortage Initiative grant, two other Hoopeston projects are included in Blagojevich's plan, including money to Silgan Containers to upgrade equipment and the brown-

## Local men lead officers from three police agencies on chase

WATSEKA—Two men were being held in Iroquois County Sunday after leading officers from three agencies on a chase through two counties.

Austin E. Dale, 26, of 203 S. Donovan, Wellington and Jackie E. Winchester, 28, of 303 Henderson, Rossville, were taken to the Iroquois County jail after an incident that started at 11:21 p.m.

Iroquois County deputies had tried to stop the vehicle in which the men were allegedly traveling near Stockland. The vehicle traveled to Hoopes-

ton, when Hoopeston police were called to assist as the vehicle went south on North Market to McNeil, east to Seventh St., south to Thompson, east to Fifth St., and then south to East Honeywell.

Police from both agencies tried to box the vehicle in in the 500 block of East Honeywell, where the vehicle and an Iroquois County car collided. As an Iroquois County deputy approached the car, police allege the driver backed up, then sped forward trying to strike the deputy.

The suspect vehicle and Iroquois County

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## Briefly

### Multi Agency van schedule

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency transportation project is: Monday, Hoopeston/Rossville shuttle; Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville. To arrange a ride, call 283-5544.

Community center activities include: Monday-Friday, cards, noon; Thursday, men's coffee 9 a.m.

### Coaches needed

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**Rossville**

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**Milford**

Hoopeston Youth Football is accepting applications for anyone interested in coaching youth football or cheerleading. Call Ron, 283-6985 or Lee, 283-7883.

### Reunions set

- Hoopeston-East Lynn Class of 1980 will hold its 25th reunion at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3 at Hubbard Trail Country Club. Please direct all questions to Barb Haggerty Hoeft, (608) 846-4132.

- Rossville-Alvin High School Alumni Association has set the date for the 70th get-together. The event



## Police News



**Gary M. Vargas**, 46, of 619 W. Elm, Apt. 2, was arrested after an incident at 5:46 p.m. Wednesday in the 600 block of West Elm.

Police allege Vargas had an altercation with other tenants in the building and kicked Sgt. James Goodrum and Officer Ephriam Bolin when they tried to arrest him.

Vargas was charged with aggravated battery, resisting arrest and two counts of disorderly conduct. He was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

**Two boys**, ages 13 and 14, reported Friday that someone took three of their bicycles from the 500 block of West Maple. The bikes include a light green/black Dyno VFR, chrome Mongoose Convit and gray Pacifica GTA.

cars re-

**See CHASE on other side**

### Chase continued from other side

sumed the chase, going north on Market to Thompson, then east of Thompson out of town.

By this time, Vermilion County Sheriff's Department deputies had also become involved in the chase and they and Iroquois County officials stopped the vehicle at 3500 N and State Line Rd.

Both men were charged with aggravated battery to a police officer. Additionally, Dale was charged for driving on revocation and two stop sign violations.

The men were taken to the Public Safety Building and were later extradited to Watseka.

will be held Oct. 15 at the Beef House in Covington IN. Graduates will receive a letter from the association during the month of June. Former students of the Rossville schools are invited.

For information, contact Phyllis Bell at (217) 748-6486 or pbell@advancenet.net. Officers are: Lester Moore, (217)765-4939, Iris Wagoner, 748-6975, Darla Mikels, 748-6792, and Todd Harris, 748-6805.

### Music Booster winners

This week's winners in the Hoopeston Area

**A set of keys** was found Friday in the 700 block of First Ave. The owner may identify and claim them at the police station.

**A 31-year-old** woman reported Friday that someone took a blue/silver Mongoose bike from Parkview Court.

**Jesus J. Lopez.**, 18, of 602 E. Main was arrested at 2:54 p.m. Friday in the 600 block of East Main. Lopez, wanted on two Vermilion County warrants, was released on \$101 cash bond.

**No tickets** or injuries were reported in an accident at 7:22 p.m. Friday at West Orange and Sixth Ave.

Police said Ashley Kinney of Hoopeston, in a 2004 Pontiac, was turning west from the stop sign when she was struck by a 1998 Chevrolet driven by

## Obituaries

**UDEN**—Erna L. Uden, 52, of Rankin died Wednesday, June 8, 2005 in Rantoul. There will be no services. Cremation rites will be accorded. Visitation was 4-7 p.m. Saturday at Wolfe Funeral Home, Rankin. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

## Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 87, low 69. High tomorrow, 86, low 63.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston

Music Booster calendar drawing are: June 13, Maple PTO, June 14, Michael and Matthew Silver; June 15, Nancy Hertel; June 16, Peter Ellsworth (donated back); June 17, Joan Morton, Community Bank.

### Senior pictures in

Hoopeston Area senior pictures and videos are in and may be picked up in the high school office. Hours are 8 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. daily in June. The office will be closed in July.

### Blood drive

The Hoopeston VFW will hold a blood drive from noon-6 p.m. Monday, June 13 at the post home. Anyone is eligible who last donated on or before April 18.

For an appointment, call Marie Brown, 283-7850. Walk-ins are welcome.

### First aid/CPR classes

Anyone who needs certification or recertification in first aid or CPR is invited to attend classes at the Rossville Ambulance Barn. A first aid class will be held at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 15 and CPR classes will be offered at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 16.

Advance registration is required. For information or to register, call

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