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801 East Orange St.
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owner/publisher

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Phone/Fax:
(217) 283-9348

Email:
publish@justthefacts.net

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Workforce Investment Board seeks input on incubators

The Vermilion County Workforce Investment Board (VCWIB) is investigating the need of a Business Incubator in Vermilion County. An incubator helps start-up and existing businesses be more successful.

An incubator is a building that houses small and start-up businesses for a low cost that graduates over time. Businesses share services, such as conference rooms, photocopiers, fax machines and access to the internet, among others. Additional business assistance is sometimes given through workshops if the need is determined.

On a national average those businesses that use an incubator setting to begin have two-thirds the success rate compared to the businesses that fail without an incubator setting.

The VCWIB is asking area businesses or those who are interested in starting a business to fill out a survey and return to the VCWIB office. The survey is very simple to fill out and asks a variety of questions on your business or your start up business, like do your business facilities adequately meet your needs; do you have a current business plan; what shared services would your company be interested in; what seminars or classes would be beneficial; in what areas of your business would you like more help; what is your level of interest in an incubator; what types of space would you be interested in; and where do you think the best area in the county would be an acceptable location.

The Business Incubator Survey can be found online at: www.vermilioncountyetc.com under "Downloads".

The VCWIB has been discussing the possibility of an incubator(s) in Vermilion County after the Community Audit the VCWIB conducted in 2003 with the Chal-

See INCUBATOR on other side



Nice gator

Chloe Alkire, 12, makes nice with an alligator owned by animal trainer Dan Breeding. Breeding was at the Hoopeston Public Library Wednesday with a collection of his animals. The former Hoopeston resident now lives in Raleigh, NC, where he runs a Creatures of Creation, a Christian wildlife outreach. He is also head trainer for Wild Ones, Animal Encounters, Inc.

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Police News



Three young girls were arrested Thursday after allegedly causing damage at McFerren Park.

The girls, ages 11 and 12 from Hoopeston and a 10-year-old Ludlow girl, were charged with criminal damage to state supported property at 6:40 p.m. Thursday after police said they wrote on the bathroom walls, stalls and doors and clogged the sinks and toilets at McFerren Park.

The girls were released to their parents. Juvenile petitions were filed on all three.

A 57-year-old Hoopeston woman reported Friday that someone took a green and black 16" Huffy bicycle from her porch in the 400 block of East Main.

An 18-year-old Hoopeston woman reported Friday that someone took items from her 1996 Dodge while it was in the 900 block of East McNeil.

Jason R. Reyes, 18, of 301 E. Lincoln was arrested at 4:40 p.m. Saturday in the 900 block of West Penn.

Reyes was charged with theft on a complaint from a 49-year-old Hoopeston woman who alleged he took a

bottle of prescription medication.

Reyes was released on a notice to appear.

A 40-year-old Hoopeston man reported Sunday that someone slashed four tires on his 1988 Chevrolet pickup. The damage occurred in the north alley in the 200 block of East Main.

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Hoopeston Area Youth Soccer to hold fall season signups

Hoopeston Area Youth Soccer signups will be July 1, 8-9 and 15-16 for the fall Danville Soccer Association season.

Signups will be 9 a.m.-1 p.m. July 1, 8 and 15 and noon-2 p.m. July 9 and 16. The July 1 signup will be at the Hoopeston Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave.; the remaining dates will be held at the soccer complex on South Sixth Ave.

Registration forms are available at www.danvillesoccer.org. Forms may be taken or mailed to 503 W. Washington, Hoopeston, IL 60942. Forms should not be sent to Danville.

This is for boys and girls ages 4-13 from Hoopeston Area, Rossville, Milford and any other area community. Contact Marty Dobkins, (217) 283-7363 for more information.

Obituaries

HUCKLEBY - Marguerite Sue Huckleby, 62, of Hoopeston died at 1:13 a.m. Thursday, June 22, 2006 at her daughter's home in Rossville. Funeral services were at 10 a.m. Saturday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial was in Floral Hill Cemetery.

Visitation was 4-7 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

WALKER - Bruce P. Walker, 61, of Hoopeston died at 10:13 a.m. Wednesday, June 21, 2006 at home. Arrangements are pending at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home.

Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 77, low 59. Tomorrow, high 78, low 60.

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

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Rossville: 1 Riverview Apartments. Completely refurbished, on-site washers & dryers. \$310/mo., \$310 deposit. Call (217) 840-3672.

CHILD CARE

Licensed Day Care have 4 openings for 2yrs and older, do take State Pay. call 283-6855 and ask for Debbie.

HELP WANTED

Part-time Help wanted, substitute custodian for Hoopeston Public Library, 110 N. Fourth St.. Applications available at front desk.

HOUSES FOR SALE

Hoopeston: 901 W. Penn St. Custom-built 3 BR/ 1½ BA/LR/ Kitchen/Full Basement. CA. Lots of closets & storage space. All appliances stay. \$67,000. Call (217) 283-5517 or (217) 304-3250.

LOST & FOUND

Lost: 7 year old Yorkie, "Sammy." Last seen Wed. night on East Seminary. If found, call (217) 283-6769 or 283-5700. \$200 reward.

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Incubator continued from other side

lence of "Promoting and Supporting Vermilion County Entrepreneurism". Entrepreneurial activity is present in Vermilion County but increasing the number of entrepreneurs in the county is important to the areas future economic development.

VCWIB Director, Lori Brewster attended the National Association of Workforce Boards conference last March. Brewster attended a session on supporting entrepreneurial development in rural communities. The nation was built on entrepreneurialism and as globalization occurs it is predicted that the small communities that are striving to survive will prosper as we become more dependent on services around us.