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Photo contributed

Members of the Mayor's Youth Council receive a Governor's Hometown Award Tuesday at a banquet for statewide winners. Pictured with students are state Sen. Dan Rutherford, Mayor Bill DeWitt, Julie Moore, IDCEO Central and Southeast Regional Manager and Kay Brown of Hoopeston Area High School.

# **Hoopeston youth program wins state Home Town Award**

On Tuesday, November 27, 2007 the Hoopeston Mayor's Youth Council was recognized at the Governor's Hometown Awards Banquet for the Youth Town Hall "Country Boys" Project which began in 2005.

The Mayor's Youth Council received first place in the Youth Involvement Category for communities in the population bracket 5,901 – 10,000. The Mayor's Youth Council was also one of eight Governor's Cup Finalists from all population categories chosen from the 40 awarded projects. This recognition is a tremendous honor for Hoopeston.

In 2005, a documentary aired entitled "Country Boys." The story of two high school boys struggling for identity and opportunity in a small, poverty-stricken town in Kentucky directly paralleled the environment in Hoopeston. The documentary was viewed as a tool to teach at-risk youth, and a partnership was formed between WILL (which aired the documentary), the City of Hoopeston, and the Hoopeston School District.

The goal of the Youth Town Hall Project was to identify youth struggles and give teens a chance to voice

See AWARD on other side

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#### Award continued from other side

their concerns. Adult leaders met regularly for one year to identify solutions. Hoopeston youth were directly involved in planning and leading the initiative, giving them a sense of belonging to the community.

Surveys conducted by 13 youth brought light to issues such as unemployment, drugs, and alcohol. A one-on-one mentoring program created as a result of the youths'

#### **Police News**



A cell phone was found at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday in the 700 block of South Fifth St. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

## — Briefly

#### **Tiny Tots**

Tiny Tots story program will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room. Tiny Tots is open to children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

#### 90th birthday open house

Friendships are one of the few things that improve with age. The family of Robert E. Lingley invite friends to celebrate his 90th Birthday and a lifetime of good friendship on Sunday Dec 9th 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall 302 N. Market St. Hoopeston.

#### Weather



Partly sunny today. High 40. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 20. Tomorrow, chance of freezing rain, then rain. High and low 34. Sunday, chance of rain changing to snow late. High 47, low 26.

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



excitement helps keep young people in school, improve their grades, and decrease the use of drugs and alcohol.

The mayor's youth council and the Overtime youth center held at the Multi-Agency were also outcomes of the Youth Town Hall initiative. The Town Hall initiative has had a long term impact on the community. The youth of Hoopeston have a voice and work to better their community and themselves for the first time.

This project was made possible due to the partnership of Prairie Center Health Systems and WILL AM-FM-TV at the University of Illinois. Hoopeston youth worked hard to get this project started and to sustain this project. Young people involved are:

#### Last Year

Melissa Burhmester Steven Taylor
Alice Ellsworth Elizabeth Booher
Katana Byers Vincent Watson
Sarah Bock Peter Ellsworth

Eric Ellsworth Samantha Ramos

#### This Year

**Seniors** 

Elizabeth Booher (President) Emily Warner Callie Huffman Sarah Bock

Ashley Houmes

**Juniors** 

Mollie Samet Vincent Watson

William Plaza

Sophomores

Katana Byers

Katana Byers *Freshmen* 

Sarah Hayn Morgan Walder Aarron Yates Jacy Samet

The City of Hoopeston has received a 9" X 12" walnut plaque to display in the City Hall and a special Governor's Cup Finalist road sign which will be displayed along route one on the south end of McFerren Park.

## Classifieds

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Countryside will be open every weekend until Christmas, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays only. DVDs, CDs, PS1 games, 2/\$1; Spiderman throws, books 50¢; & so much more! Lots of changes! 217 E. Main, Hoopeston

#### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

One bedroom upstairs apartment available. Utilities furnished. Call (217) 283-702B

#### HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Express Lube has opening for full time lube technician. Will train. Drug screen required. Apply in person.

Local financial services industry seeks administrative assistant. Position available immediately. Part time, may become full time. Successful candidate will be able to deal with the public, maintain confidentiality and have excellent organizational skills. Common sense a plus. Send resume to Box D, Just the Facts, P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

#### HOUSES FOR RENT

Two bedroom house for rent in Hoopeston. Great Neighborhood! No Pets. \$425 per month, Deposit and References Required. Call 217-304-6547 for Application.

#### HOUSES FOR SALE

Country Home south of Hoopeston. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath ranch in a wooded setting. New custom kitchen, interior paint and carpets, maintenance free exterior, all on 1.75 acres. Asking \$179,900. Call 217-304-6547 for more info & a private show-

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#### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Aspen deluxe 4-in-1 sleeper baby crib with Sealy Baby Posturpedic mattress. Like new! \$175 OBO (217) 504-2012

Amana Washer 2 speed, 12 cycle commercial quality and a Whirlpool 3 speed dryer. Both items are 5 years old. \$250 for the pair. 309-825-5939

#### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

The Village of Rossville will be accepting sealed bids for a 2 story home at 123 E. Attica St., circa 1900, newer roof, vinyl siding, some newer repl. windows, newer Trane furnace never used. Interior needs finishing. Approx 2450 sq. ft. Large lot. Zoned B-1, majority of rewiring completed. Minimum bid \$20,000. Redevelopment agreement with terms/conditions. Call or pick up details at Municipal office 748-6914 or call Mayor Prillaman 748-6900. Bids to be opened 7 pm, Dec. 17, 2007.

#### **RUMMAGE SALES**

Snow kidding! Heated shed rummage sale. Nov. 30, 4-6, Dec. 1, 8-1. Bunk beds, Little Tykes, Transformers, N64, Playstation games & more! Men's XL, Junior 3, boys clothes. Rt. 1 north of Hoopeston 3 mi. Turn west on Rd. 300. Go 1.6 miles. Terri Hurt

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