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Lourdine Florek, owner

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## School board looks at ways to make ag program successful

Hoopeston Area's school board is considering ways to assure the success of its agriculture program.

In February, the board approved having the program at Hoopeston Area. It had currently been offered at the former Rossville-Alvin High School.

While classroom space was easily available, board members said a shop area is also needed. One option is to turn the existing bus maintenance area into the ag shop and build a separate building for bus maintenance, said building and grounds committee chairman Mark Schaumburg.

Another option may be to erect a building to house the

superintendent's and business offices, along with the bus area, said board President Russ Walder.

Member Chris Elliott said none of the current options "fit the bill, so to speak," adding the board "has a long way to go, but we will get there."

Firm numbers on either a stand-alone bus maintenance area or combined administration/bus area were not available, but all board members seemed to agree more space is needed to ensure the ag program's success.

"We'd like to see the ag program take root and be something we can be proud of," Schaumburg said, adding the board has "full confidence" in ag instructor Emily McCray.

Having a shop area is something we really need to look at strongly. It will be an expense that will need to be talked about."

In unrelated business, the board approved a tentative budget using conservative revenue and liberal expenses.

One revenue source, state aid, will be down \$149,000 from last year, said Mark Eighner, business manager/transportation director.

Another area where the district will receive less money is transportation. Last year, the state supported

See BOARD on other side

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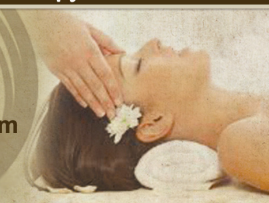
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## Police News



A **64-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported at 11 a.m. Thursday that someone damaged her driveway during the previous night. The damage occurred in the 700 block of East Main.

**Rafael Resendez**, 26, of Hoopeston, was arrested after an incident at 11:51 a.m. Thursday in the 400 block of

East Washington. He was charged with reckless conduct on a complaint from a 17-year-old Hoopeston girl who alleged Resendez ran over her foot with a vehicle. Additionally, he was charged with driving on revocation.

He was released on recognizance bond for the reckless conduct charge and \$100 bond on the revocation of-

fense.

**Christine D. English**, 33, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 2:56 p.m. Thursday at Parkview Court.

Wanted on a Vermilion County traffic warrant for failure to appear/expired registration, she was taken to the Public Safety Building, Danville, in lieu of \$179 bond with a \$75 fee.

A **15-year-old** Hoopeston girl was arrested after an incident at 11:11 p.m. Friday in the 500 block of South Sixth Avenue. She was charged with aggravated battery

on a complaint from a 14-year-old Hoopeston girl.

The arrested youngster was released to a parent.

**Douglas G. Land**, 49, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 9:57 a.m. Saturday at Wyman and Fifth Street.

Wanted on a Vermilion County traffic warrant for failure to appear/bond, he was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville in lieu of \$5,000 bond.

A **Bluetooth** unit was found at 9:45 a.m. Saturday in the 700 block of East Thompson. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.



## Court Dispositions



### July 7

**Octavius Stancle**, Hoopeston, fined \$280 at sentencing; status hearing August 4.

**Virginia Hale**, Hoopeston, fined \$280 at sentencing; status hearing August 4.

**Amanda Palomo**, Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to restraint of dogs by owner or keeper, fined \$180; status hearing September 1.

**Melissa Dalton**, Hoopeston, case dismissed by city attorney.

### August 4

**Paula Smithers**, Hoopeston, pleaded not guilty to re-

straint of dogs by owner or keeper; trial September 1.

**Octavius Stancle**, initial appearance rescheduled for October 6.

**Stacy Watson**, Hoopeston, pleaded not guilty to battery; trial September 1.

## Obituaries

**LUKE** - Graveside service for Judith C. Luke of Hoopeston, who died November 11, 2010, in Florida, will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Floral Hill Cemetery. Brown-Alkire Funeral Home, Hoopeston, is in charge of arrangements.

## Board continued from other side

transportation at 57 percent, decreased to 50 percent this year, said Superintendent Hank Hornbeck.

In total, the tentative budget will deduct \$1.7 million from district surplus funds with the education fund showing a negative \$1.08 million; building negative \$634,000; and transportation, negative \$133,000.

The deficits will still leave the district with surpluses in each of its eight funds.

"It's been a tradition in our school district to always look at a worst case scenario," Hornbeck said.

In unrelated action, the board:

- Approved resignations from Heather Ohlemeyer, Honeywell special education; Patricia McNeely, high school personal aide (VASE); and Ann Penicook, curriculum coordinator/external PBIS coach, who accepted a position with the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports program.

- The board approved hiring Connie Alexander, who formerly served as curriculum coordinator and external PBIS coach at Potomac, to replace Penicook. Also hired were: Crystal Flondor, Honeywell special ed; Donna Spear, high school personal aide (VASE); and Lisa Tate, part time Honeywell lunchroom aide.

- Heard from middle school Principal Anne Burton about parent requests to reinstate a middle school base-

## Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 82. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 62. Tomorrow, partly sunny, chance of storms late. High 87, low 67.

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

ball program. Burton presented estimated costs to the board to consider.

Hoopeston had, for four years, a co-op baseball program for seventh and eighth graders, but that was discontinued, Hornbeck said.

Heard from high school principal Larry Maynard that the school will have a German exchange student this year.

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