

**VFW Menu**  
 Orange & 4th Ave., Hoopeston  
 Thursdays: **Tacos by Norma**  
**11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and 5 - 8 p.m.**  
 Fridays: **NFCC Fish Fry**  
**11a.m. - 7 p.m.**  
*Check out our video gaming machines!*

Tune in at  
 5 p.m. tonight  
**Hoopeston Happenings**  
 with **Scott Hudson**  
**Hoopeston Area Sports Boosters**  
 on **WHPO!**



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**Participants, volunteers still welcomed for Cornathlon**

If you're not doing anything Saturday and feel like swimming 150 meters, biking 12.5 miles and running 3.1 miles, does Hoopeston have an activity for you!  
 For those that don't want to do all that, volunteers are still needed for the first Cornathlon, a triathlon to benefit Hoopeston Area Sports Boosters.  
 A meeting for volunteers and participants was held at 6 p.m. Wednesday at the Jaycees pavilion at McFerren Park, but those who didn't make the meeting can still volunteer by going to McFerren Park at 6:30 a.m. Saturday, said event organizer Scott Hudson.  
 The parking area at the McFerren Park pool will be the

**Cornathlon**  
**Swim.** Anyone wanting to volunteer may show up there and be directed to where they need to go,  
**Bike.** Last-minute participant signups will begin at 7 a.m. and at 7:30, the first person will step into the pool, kicking off the first of the events.  
**Run.** Hudson said.



After six laps in the pool, participants will leave the bath house, hop on bicycles for the biking portion, lapping the park and exiting on Penn to Sixth Ave., then Thompson to Cheneyville and back to the park.  
 In the running leg, participants will start in the transition area, exit on Penn to Sixth Ave., to Thompson to Market to Penn. They will take Penn to Sixth Ave., to Washington and finish inside the park.  
 Some participants will do all three stages, while others have banded in teams with members taking specific stages. Those who have signed up range in age from 11 to 50+.  
 As of Wednesday, about 40 people have signed up but "I'm thinking it will be closer to 75 by the time it's done," Hudson said. "A lot of people are holding off to see what the weather looks like," he said, adding the forecast "looks better and better."  
 Pre-registration numbers were good enough for organizers to already schedule a 2016 Cornathlon for July 2.  
 The event will be held in the rain "unless it's a gully-washer," Hudson said, but lightning will put at least a temporary halt on things. "Lightning's not good on a bicycle. It's not good for people in a pool, either."  
 See CORNATHLON on other side

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 **The Pump**  
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 1023 W. Main, Hoopeston

Mon.: BBQ Pork Tenderloins & Cole Slaw  
 Tues: Beef Taco Salad  
 Wed.: Lasagna & Garlic Toast  
 Thurs.: Foot long Chili Cheese Dogs & Curly Fries  
 Fri.: Ribeye Sandwiches & Broccoli/Cauli Salad  
**BIG GUNS BAND July 11th**  
 Come in and try your luck with our LIVE VIDEO GAMING!

**Special of the Month**

Your Choice While Supplies Last!

**99¢** Before Mail-In Rebate

32 Oz. RTS or Concentrate  
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**\$4 Mail-In Rebate**  
 See Store for details



722340, 700183 July

**Olympic Hardware**  
 516 N. Dixie Hwy., Hoopeston  
 (217) 283-5186 Open Sundays 

**BINGO**  
**7 p.m. every Thursday**  
**Hoopeston**  
**American Legion**  
**502 E. Penn**

**The Pump**  
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**Sweetcorn Festival 2015**  
*The REAL PARTY is here on Labor Day weekend!*

**Fri. Sept. 4: Country Feel**      **Sat. Sept. 5: Patrick Sheppard & Feuding Hillbillies**

**Sun. Sept. 6: Cornhole Tournament & Best Golf Cart Contest**



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## Democrat school spending bill has smaller increases than Gov. Rauner recommended

Illinois parents, teachers, and the entire education community received some welcome news this week, when Governor Bruce Rauner signed legislation into law that will fund schools for the next year. The good news here is obvious, our schools will receive their money and will be able to open on time.

While this is good news for Illinois schools, the appropriations in this budget bill still fall short of the recommendations Governor Rauner laid out in his February budget address. Governor Rauner had proposed spending \$344 million more than last year on elementary and secondary education, and \$312 more on early childhood education, both of which I fully support.

The spending bill sent to him by Democrats only increased elementary and secondary education funding by \$244 million, and early childhood education by \$25 million.

Our governor had a difficult choice to make. This education bill was part of the Democrats' \$3+ billion underfunded budget. Their leadership has made it



**Statehouse Update**  
 By **Jason Barickman**  
 State Senator, 53rd District

clear that so far they have no interest in enacting the type of pro-job reforms that will finally right our fiscal condition, they only want another tax increase.

In their fight to protect their own special interests, Democrat leaders were willing to use schools as pawns to try to force the Governor and Republicans to raise taxes without needed reforms. The idea is that if no agreed budget was in place, schools might not open. Now the Governor has ensured that our schools will open and our teachers will get paid.

I applaud the Governor's move, but I am saddened that we were ever put in this position. School funding will still be prorated, meaning schools get less than they are owed by the state. Estimates put that

### **Cornathlon** continued from other side

Hudson acknowledged the Cornathlon will be a bit of an inconvenience for residents, especially those on the biking and running routes. "I know it's going to be a little bit of a nuisance for half a day," he said, asking those who have to drive on Saturday use caution. For those that don't, he suggested they pull out the lawn chairs and watch as participants go by. "It's almost like a parade."

Tri-Everything, a New Jersey-based store for triathlon supplies, is sponsoring the Cornathlon, along with several local businesses, including Anthem Chevrolet, Paul's Towing & Auto., First Farmers Bank, Iroquois Federal, Mr. B's., Lithgow Motorsports, Chittick Family Eyecare, Transitions Weight Loss of Danville, C&D Outdoor Improvements, WHPO and Terminex.

### Weather

Slight chance of storms today. High 76. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 57. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 77, low 59.

proration at 92%, which is still better than the 87% they received last year.

I implore Democrat leaders to agree to fundamental reforms, pass a balanced budget, and strive to enact meaningful education funding reform. True bipartisan cooperation could finally put an end to proration, so we can pay our schools what they are owed as part of a balanced budget process. We all know what needs to be done, but we need help from the other side of the aisle to get there.

### From the Blotter

A 17-year-old person was arrested after an incident Tuesday in the 100 block of East Main. A 34-year-old Hoopeston woman alleged the juvenile battered her.

The minor was charged with battery and released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

## Classifieds

### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Honeywell Apartments: 2 BR, includes water, heat, pest control, off street parking (815) 984-4513

### HELP WANTED

Cook. Mustard Seed Christian Daycare, Rossville. 7-4 daily. \$12/hour. Must have or get Food Sanitation License. 217-748-6370.

### RUMMAGE SALES

ROSSVILLE: 504 S. Chicago. "July 4th" 3 family sale. Stop by for great "Bang Up" deals. 8-3.

AMBIA: First house northeast of Ambia. Sat., 8-4. LOTS of baby boy clothes. Follow the signs.

HOOPESTON: Better Living, 401½ E. Main. Friday, starting at 9 a.m. Big outdoor sale. Bicycles, strollers, outdoor toys, filing cabinets, table, Power Wheels & much more.

### SERVICES

Happy Tails Dog Grooming. Gentle care. Pick-up and delivery available. (217) 283-7426.

Furry Friends Pet Sitting. Pet/house sitting. Sarah Kasallis. Call (217) 497-8469 or email furryfriends\_ps@yahoo.com.

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to place your ad.

Hoopeston Chamber Presents

**FUN IN THE PARK**



**July 3 5-8 p.m.**  
**McFerren Park**

- Bounce Houses • Face painting
- Ice Cream Popcorn • CottonCandy
- Dunk Tank

**Fish fry, Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Fries**  
 Jaycees, Rotary & Lions Club  
**Fireworks at dusk at Youth Soccer Field**  
 Presented by Carle & Heritage Health