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Tuesday, February 21, 2017

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Hoopeston Area, police investigating social media threats

Hoopeston Area High School officials are working with Hoopeston Police Department to find students responsible for posting threats on social media last week.

Supt. Hank Hornbeck said Friday that "alarming" messages were posted on Twitter and Instagram, including "pictures of things that are not nice," insinuating bodily harm.

Administrators and police are working to find out how many students are involved and who posted the material. In an effort to "cloak themselves, so to speak," students have changed IP addresses, switched phones and used other measures, Hornbeck said.

Police have talked to students and there was an increased police presence in the school last week, he added.

Activity seems to have started before last week but

"started to get serious early (last) week," Hornbeck said.

Some parents took to social media on Thursday, asking whether other parents were sending their children to the high school. Some parents opted to keep students home while other parents said they contacted police and were told it was safe for youngsters to attend.

At Thursday's board meeting, the district issued a statement, which read:

"Hoopeston Area School District is aware of the alarming information that has been on various social media platforms as of late. We are working closely with local law enforcement officials. We want to thank law enforcement for their assistance in the matter, and ask that anyone who has any information to report it. Student safety is our number one priority."

Board officially approves retirement for Hornbeck, others

Hoopeston Area Superintendent Hank Hornbeck's June 30 retirement got official approval at Thursday's district school board meeting.

The board unanimously affirmed Hornbeck's retirement, as well as those for Maple teacher Annette Lockhart; high school guidance counselor Kay Brown; middle school teacher and coach Rich Stipp; and Maple principal Lori Eells.

All but Hornbeck's will be effective at the end of this school year.

In other personnel issues, the board approved transfers of Cheryl Overlander from sixth grade special ed to fifth grade special ed; Kristy Garrison from middle school aide to John Greer aide; and Angela Simpson from Jon Greer aide to middle school aide, effective August 17.

In other business, the board:

- Set the annual board/administrators retreat for 6-9 p.m. March 13 in the high school library.
- Learned the next meeting will be held Tuesday, March 14 at the middle school and will include reports from the Response to Intervention (RtI) and curriculum coordinators and community liaison. The annual board photo will be taken prior to the 6:30 p.m. meeting.
- Learned Maple School's Jump Rope for Heart raised more than \$10,000.
- Heard from transportation coordinator Mark Eighner that Denise Bray has taken over scheduling extra-curricular buses, replacing Nancy Stipp, who retired.
- Eighner said illnesses and injuries created chal-

See RETIREMENT on other side

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- **Thursday: Tacos, 5-8**
- **Friday: Buddy Burgers & Tenderloins, 5-8**

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Registration underway for free Carle-sponsored CPR with AED, first aid training at DACC Higher Learning Center Hoopeston

A free CPR/first aid class will be held Friday, March 10 at the DACC Higher Learning Center, 847 E Orange, Hoopeston.

The class is open to those ages 14 and older. Eight students must register for the class to be held.

CPR

According to the American Heart Association, 80 percent of cardiac arrests occur at home and are

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called to a brush fire at 2:21 p.m. Sunday in the area of 221 N. Market. No injuries were reported.

From the Blotter

Kenneth C. Torres, 27, of Rossville, was arrested at 1:35 p.m. Sunday at East Maple and South Third St. Wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for theft under and possession of stolen property, he was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville in lieu of bond.

witnessed by a family member. More than half occur without prior recognition of cardiac disease.

This course provides instruction in proper CPR techniques for victims of all ages, as well as how to assist in a choking situation or use an automatic external defibrillator (AED).

First Aid

Formal first-aid training may save a life. This course provides instruction on the principles of providing first aid, how to protect the victim and

Court Dispositions

January 5

David Cannon, Hoopeston, pleaded not guilty to theft; trial February 2.

Deanna Smithers, Hoopeston, failed to appear for battery, found guilty by default; sentencing February 2.

Tammy Coon, Hoopeston, pleaded not guilty to restraint of dogs by owner; trial February 2.

Robert Ferrell, Hoopeston, status check March 2.

rescuer, how to assess the victim and what to do after the emergency.

CPR for victims of all ages, as well as how to assist in a choking situation or use and automatic external defibrillator (AED) will be taught from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The second session, on first aid, will be held from 1-4 p.m. and will include instruction on the principles of providing first aid, how to protect the victim and

Obituaries

BROWN - Evelyn E. (Miller) Brown, 88, of Bismarck, died at 5:44 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Tuesday at Northside Church of Christ, Bismarck. Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the church. Burial will be in Gundy Cemetery, Bismarck. Memorials are suggested to Vermilion County 4-H University of Illinois Extension 3164 N. Vermilion Danville, IL 61832: Northside Church of Christ 17167 E. 2750 North Rd. Bismarck, IL 61814, and Bismarck Community Fire Protection District 17384 E. 2750 North Rd. Bismarck, IL, 61814.

Retirement continued from other side

lenges with buses but "cross training paid off." He added the custodial sub picked up Larry Wallace's duties since Wallace retired as Honeywell custodian.

- High school Principal Larry Maynard said the University of Michigan/Ann Arbor is conducting a national survey and wants to include Hoopeston seniors. The survey is voluntary and students may opt out of taking it.

- Heard from middle school Principal Anne Burton that 15 other student councils met with Hoopeston Middle School's student council recently.

- Learned 220 guests were served at the annual Sweetheart Banquet sponsored by Hoopeston Area High School student council.

Weather

Chance of showers then partly sunny today. High 67. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 46. Tomorrow, sunny. High 70, low 46.

rescuer how to assess the victim and what to do after the emergency.

Each successfully completed class comes with an American HeartSaver Certification card.

To register, visit the DACC Higher Learning Center.

Letters to the Editor

VFW Big Breakfast was a big hit

Thank you to the VFW for a delicious Big Breakfast. It was wonderful, everyone was working as hard as they could to take care of the crowds. Always a nice place to meet friends to visit and enjoy great food prepared with love. If you missed it, be sure and go next year. VFW, you did a wonderful job for the community. Thank you.

Marty and Bertha Parsons
Hoopeston

Classifieds

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