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Friday, April 18, 1997
Hoopeston's only locally-owned dail9y news publication!

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Board, company rep square off over faulty tile at Honeywell

School officials won't be walked on over bad tile at Honeywell School.

The Hoopeston Area school board voted unanimously Thursday night not to pay the final \$3,000 due on a \$6,400 tile replacement at the school.

Two rooms of tile, installed by Rethelford's, a local company which installs floor coverings, has indentations and has shrunk, said Superintendent Don Dean. "I can't imagine a four-sided piece of tile shrinking on one side," he said. "There's a straight line where the tile has shrunk or slipped."

The building committee considered three options: having Rethelford's tear out the old floor and replace it; accepting the floor but not paying the complete amount; and pursuing legal action to get a refund of all money paid.

While school officials believe the tile is faulty, company representative Barb Rethelford said the problem arose when school employees waxed the floor too soon after the tile was installed.

"We've never had a problem in 30 years," she said. "Why do we lose all of the money on it if it wasn't our

fault? Why should we take the brunt of this?"

Board member Gary Miller denied the company is bearing the brunt. "We paid over half for a job that we're not satisfied with," he said.

Fellow board member Steve Unger agreed. "I guess we each have to take our hits on this," he said.

In unrelated action, the board's curriculum committee will consider options involved in a request from high school junior Jessica Brackman.

Brackman requested that she be allowed not to take physical education her senior year to allow her to take academic courses in preparation for college.

Earlier this school year, the board approved a measure making physical education a full-credit course so students would not request waivers.

High school principal Mark Conolly disagreed with the practice. "When an exception is granted, it's not a stand-alone item," he said. Once you open the floodgates, it's hard to close them again."

However, the curriculum committee agreed to look at the issue again and make a recommendation at the board's May 15 meeting.

Local veterans learn of benefit availability at seminar

Changes in veterans' benefits are difficult to keep up with, according to a man who does it for a living.

"It's nearly impossible for me to keep up with the laws and changes in the Veterans Administration and the state of Illinois," said Bill Cambron, veterans service officer for the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs office in Danville.

Cambron, of Oakwood, spoke to approximately 50 veterans Wednesday night at a special seminar at the Hoopeston American Legion.

Much of Cambron's talk focused on disabilities, both

service-related and not. "A disability can be anything from athlete's feet to hemorrhoids to a sprained ankle," he said. "You don't know if you'll be compensated until you file a claim."

Cambron explained that Veterans Administration hospitals treat two types of disabilities: those they are mandated to cover, and sometimes, those that are not required.

For example, some things, such as treatment for prisoners of war, and those exposed to Agent Orange,

See VETERANS on other side

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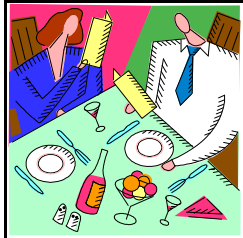
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American Legion
502 E. Penn, Hoopeston



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Veterans continued from other side

ionized radiation and Persian Gulf chemicals must be treated, as well as veterans whose disability is at least 50 percent service related.

Hospitals may, but do not have to provide services for hearing aids, glasses and other conditions not directly service-related, he said.

Sometimes disabilities that once were not covered become covered over time, Cambron said. Smoking is one such disability.

Veterans who can prove they did not smoke until they entered the armed services may be eligible for compensation. "If you show that you didn't get a break unless you smoked, that cigarettes were included in your rations, that you paid \$2 a carton for them while everyone else was paying \$10, you might be covered," Cambron said. "There are people who have claims in right now."

Frozen feet is another area which veterans may claim disabilities, Cambron said. Veterans of Asian conflicts are filing claims for frostbitten hands and feet and showing a connection to diseases incurred since wartime, such as diabetes and circulatory problems, he said.

Showing a connection between service-related disability and secondary illness is important, Cambron said. For example, the VA has recently added acute and subacute peripheral neuropathy and prostate cancer as illnesses related to Agent Orange exposure, he said.

The VA has also changed procedures for treating some veterans. Under new guidelines, veterans with no service-connected disability must take a means test before the VA will pay for treatment. Those with 10 to 40 percent service-related disability do not have to take a means test, while those with 50 percent disability will have all treatment except dental paid for.

Veterans with total disability will receive 100 percent coverage for themselves, their spouses and dependent children.

Cambron said it is important for veterans to know their benefits. "Everyday, I work to get you your benefits," he said.

Cambron can be reached at (217) 442-1711 or at 212

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Police News



Jamey D. Strawser, 21, of 423 E. Thompson, turned himself in to police at 4:37 p.m. Wednesday.

Strawser, wanted on a Vermilion County traffic warrant for failure to appear, was released on \$300 cash bond.

Beth A. Seals, 22, of 16 Parkview Court, was arrested at 3:47 p.m. Wednesday, charged with battery on a complaint from DeAnna Smith, 701 S. Market.

Police said the women were arguing in the street at Parkview Court.

Seals was released on a notice to appear.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 9:20 p.m. Wednesday.

Police said James N. Atwell, 804 S. Market, backed his 1985 Dodge Ram pickup truck from a

parking space in a lot in the 500 block of West Orange into a 1993 Ford Aerostar driven by Wendy L. Thompson, 301 N. Eighth Ave.

Rogelio Bernal, no age listed, of 417 S. Second Ave., turned himself in to police at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday.

Briefly

Girl Scout food drive

Girl Scout Troop 412 will collect canned food door-to-door between 5:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, April 21.

The drive will concentrate on the west part of Hoopeston.

All food donated will be given to the Grant Township Food Cupboard.

Bernal, wanted on a Vermilion County traffic warrant for failure to appear, was released on \$200 cash bond.

Burell Roberts, 16827 E. Attica Road, Rossville, reported Thursday that someone took a cellular phone from a truck owned by D&M Fertilizer while the truck

Volunteer tutors needed

The Danville Area Community College Reader's Route needs volunteer tutors. Training will be offered at the Hoopeston Multi Agency Service Center from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on April 23 and 30. Please bring a bag lunch. To register, call Chalmers Flint, (217) 283-5544.

Tornado video available

A video of "Tornadoes with Ed Kieser," a program which first aired on WILL-TV last June, is now available at the Hoopeston Public Library. WILL-AM 580 presented the video to the library. For more information, call the library at (217) 283-6711.

Tiny Tots

Tiny Tots story program will meet at 10:30 a.m. today at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room.

Children ages 1 to 4, accompanied by an adult, are

Illiana Real Est.
203 Maple, Rossville
(217) 748-6900
Terry Prillaman
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Lunch Menus



Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Ravioli/meat sauce, corn, cheese, slaw, bread, margarine, fruit cocktail.

TUESDAY: Chicken patty/bun, tri tator, pears, cake.

WEDNESDAY: Taco/shell, lettuce, tomato, cheese, graham cracker, pineapple.

THURSDAY: Hot dog/bun, French fries, cheese, veggie sticks, fruit cocktail.

FRIDAY: Ham & cheese/bun, green beans, pudding, peaches.

Hoopeston Area High/Middle schools

MONDAY: Ravioli/meat sauce or roast beef/bun, corn, salad, bread, margarine, fruit cocktail.

TUESDAY: Chicken patty/bun or corn dog, tri tator, pears, cake.

WEDNESDAY: Taco/shell or hamburger/bun, salad, cookie, pineapple.

THURSDAY: Hot dog/bun or BBQ/bun, French fries, cheese, veggie sticks, fruit cocktail.

FRIDAY: Ham & cheese/bun or fish/bun, green beans, pasta salad, pudding, peaches.

Rossville-Alvin schools

MONDAY: Chicken nuggets, candied sweet potatoes, fruit pizza.

TUESDAY: Spaghetti/meat sauce, salad, garlic bread, fruit.

WEDNESDAY: Pigs in a blanket, baked beans, macaroni salad, chilled fruit.

THURSDAY: Taco salad, corn, orange Jello/crushed pineapple.

FRIDAY: Grilled cheese, tomato soup, crackers, chilled fruit, chocolate brownie.

All meals include milk.

In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
April 16, 1997

Admitted: none.

Discharged: Stella Hines and Elizabeth Finley, Hoopeston.

Weather



Mostly cloudy today. High in the low 60s. Tonight, cloudy. Low in the upper 20s. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High near 62, low near 42. Sunday, chance of rain. High near 60, low near 39.

Classifieds

HOMES FOR SALE/RENT

3 bdrm, full basement, 1 car garage, washer, dryer. All appliances stay. Call (217) 283-5429.

HELP WANTED

Driver with helper needed for Saturday night delivery of newspapers. Must have clean driving record. Attention to detail a must. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. and be an honest person. A&R News Agency, (217) 283-5093