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**Wednesday, June 16, 1999**  
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication  
**P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942**  
**www.justthefacts.tm**

## Hoopeston officials take steps to form local TIF district

City officials have taken steps to improve Hoopeston. The city council on Tuesday unanimously approved spending at least \$35,000 in an agreement for technical services on studies for a tax incremental financing (TIF) district.

The contract, with Economic Development Resources of St. Louis, provides for the company to help the council identify the goals and objectives of a local TIF, as well as determine the area to be included in the district, said Alderman Bill Goodwine.

Company representatives are expected to be in Hoopeston in three to four weeks to do a field study. They will also assist in completing an eligibility study for residential, industrial and commercial TIF districts, Goodwine said.

The eligibility study will start in about three months. Within nine months, the company is expected to prepare a TIF plan, project the equalized assessed valuation of the district, define projects in the district, prepare the necessary budget and ascertain the impact on other taxing bodies, such as the school district, Goodwine said.

Once the work is done, the company will present the TIF plan to the council and guide the city through the formal approval process, including holding public hearings and drafting TIF-related ordinances.

While Economic Development Resources will help city officials, Goodwine said it is up to the city to do most of the work. "They can't do our work for us," he said. "They can help us ask the right questions, which is crucial."

While officials have considered a residential TIF district, Goodwine said the company will come in without preconceived ideas. "(They) will not presume anything," he said. "The study will start from scratch, which is what I really think we want to do."

The city will pay more for the consultant than what

was budgeted. The base fee of \$35,000 does not include related expenses, such as travel and meals, estimated at \$5,000. This year's budget estimated the cost at between \$25,000 and \$30,000, Goodwine said, adding the cost is "a legitimate expense we can get back" when a TIF district is established.

Economic Development Resources has helped other Illinois communities in creating a TIF plan, Goodwine said. Those communities include Bradley, Charleston, Manteno, Oblong, Chester and Kankakee.

Goodwine and Mayor Bob Ault met last week with company president Gene Norber to formulate the agreement. "I was certainly impressed with his credentials," Goodwine said.

In related action, the council unanimously approved a resolution allowing the city to seek possible repayment of expenditures for TIF-related activities and a second resolution allowing for a feasibility study for the redevelopment area.

The resolutions were passed to allow the city to form a TIF under existing regulations, Goodwine said. The guidelines will change July 1, making it more difficult to develop a residential TIF, he said. "We may or may not have a residential TIF," he said. "This allows us to keep our options open."

In other action, the council approved an ordinance setting the weight limit on the landfill road at 80,000 lbs.


City attorney Jim Spiros said the action was necessary because the maximum currently allowed is 73,218 lbs. because the road is not a state highway.

Alderman Dave Borders voted against the ordinance because the city has not assumed ownership of the road from Illinois Landfills, Inc.

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## Briefly

### Health Alliance

Health Alliance will be at the Hoopeston Multi Agency on these dates: Wednesday, June 23, 1-3:30 p.m.; Wednesday, June 30, 1-3:30 p.m.; Thursday, July 8, 9-11 a.m.; and Wednesday, July 21, 1-3:30 p.m.

### Strikepot Invitational

A women's strikepot invitational bowling tournament will be held at 11 a.m. June 19 at Pla-Mor Lanes, Hoopeston. Bowlers should check in by 10:30 a.m. Registration and \$10 entry fee are due by June 17.

For more information, call JoAnne Gress, 283-5194, Glenda Reed, 283-7245/283-7525 or Patti Lowe, 283-9752.

### Summer reading program

First and second graders will meet at 2 p.m. Thursday for the Hoopeston Public Library summer reading program. Children will play "The Last Dinosaur," will hear

## Police News



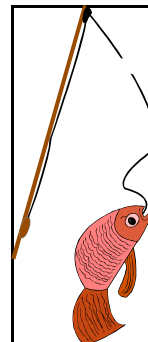
**Sherry R. Roe**, 30, of 902 E. Young, turned herself in to police at 2:25 p.m. Monday. Roe, wanted on a Vermilion County warrant, was released on \$30 cash bond.

**Aaron K. Wallace**, 20, of 615 S. Second Ave., was arrested at 5:45 p.m. Monday, charged with possession of an unlawfully altered driver's license.

Wallace was arrested in connection with a June 5 incident in the 1000 block of West Main.

He was released on \$100 cash bond.

A **Rotweiler** was reported stolen from a yard in the 100 block of East Lincoln.



North Fork  
Conservation Club  
**Father's Day Special**  
**\$35 sign-up (save \$5)**  
Friday-Saturday-Sunday  
**11 a.m.-7 p.m.**

a story and see a film.

Children are encouraged to decorate their shoes like dinosaurs or come as a caveman.

### Extended hours

The Danville driver services facility will be open additional hours to accommodate the public in purchasing their year 2000 June passenger/B truck renewal stickers.

The facility, at 405 Sheridan, Danville, is normally open Tuesday through Saturday. The office be open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, June 28 for sticker renewals only.

## Memorial collection scheduled

A street corner collection is set for July 2-3 for the Grant Township Veterans Memorial Fund.

The memorial, six black marble stones with the names of veterans engraved, will be placed in the southwest corner of McFerrer Park.

The VFW, American Legion and Amvets hope to donate the memorial on Veterans' Day, Nov. 11.

Tax deductible donations may be taken to Community Bank or Palmer Bank or mailed to Veterans Memorial Fund, c/o Palmer Bank, P.O. Box 9, Hoopeston, IL 60942.

For more information, contact the memorial committee cochairs, Charles Miller, Jerry Eells or Robert Mathews or visit the web site at <http://Verm.rurilnet.org/~veteran/veteran.html>.

## In the Hospital



**Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital**  
**June 14**

**Admitted:** none.

**Discharged:** Kenneth Hammerton, Alice Trueblood.

## Weather



Partly sunny, chance of showers today. High 70. Tonight, cloudy. Low 54. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 75, low 55.

For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston Weather Line** at (217) 283-6221.

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Haugh End Loader, 6 cycle Cummings motor has center pivot steering. Also, truck scales with ramp from Bush Gravel. Call (217) 748-6685. 165-169

Kenmore washer & dryer, full size bed complete, large oak desk, computer desk, metal wardrobe, end tables, small chest of drawers, kitchen table. Call (217) 283-6849 after 2 p.m. 167-169

Chest freezer \$100; upright piano, good condition, \$200 OBO. (217) 748-6097. 167-169

## RUMMAGE SALES

Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave. Saturday, June 19 & 26. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information call (217) 283-5544.

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