

**Hoopeston Jaycees' Annual  
DSA Banquet**

**Friday, Jan. 21**

6 p.m. Social Hour 7 p.m. Dinner

8 p.m. Awards Program

**Hoopeston American Legion**

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**Hoopeston city council approves TIF district plan**

The Hoopeston City Council on Tuesday approved a plan creating a tax increment financing (TIF) district in the city.

The district includes approximately 757 acres and is bounded by Routes 1 on the west to farmland east of Euclid to the east and from Stokely property on Honeywell on the north to the Hoopeston Area High and Middle School and Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital on the south. The district includes the downtown and older structures on East Honeywell to Washington from Market to Third St.

The combined equalized assessed valuation of the district is \$6.8 million said Gene Norber of Economic Development Resources, a St. Louis-based consulting firm hired by the city to develop the TIF district.

The approved area includes 513 acres of developed property, including 480 buildings and 450 lots. The developed property qualifies under state criteria for conservation, including in excess of 50 percent of structures over 35 years old, plus other factors, including deterioration and obsolescence. Of developed areas, 85 percent meet the age criteria, Norber said. Seventy-five percent meet guidelines for deterioration, obsolescence of site improvement and lack of community planning.

The undeveloped area qualifies under blighting conditions which include deterioration of structure or site improvements to adjacent developed land. Six undeveloped parcels are also listed on the Federal Emergency Management Agency flooding list, Norber said.

In the last four years, the TIF area experienced an average five percent growth, compared with 20 percent outside the area. "But for the TIF, there will be no redevelopment in this area," he said.

The approved proposal includes an estimated \$14.25 million budget over the 23-year statutory limit of the

district. Of that amount, \$7.5 million is estimated for construction of public works or improvements; \$3.5 million is slated for rehabilitation, reconstruction, repair or remodeling of public or private buildings or fixtures; \$1.5 million for property assembly costs, including land acquisition, demolition; \$750,000 for cost of plans, specifications and professional services; \$600,000 for financing costs and \$400,000 for relocation costs, if needed.

Alderman Drew Allen voted against accepting the proposal and sending the plan to taxing districts and the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs. He declined comment on his vote after the meeting.

With the plan approved, all taxing bodies will receive a copy of the proposal to review before a Jan. 31 meeting of representatives of those bodies. That meeting will be held at 11 a.m. at city hall.

A public hearing is scheduled for 2 p.m. March 7, also at city hall.

Alderman Don York voted against the time of the hearing saying some people will be unable to attend an afternoon session.

Under TIF guidelines, taxing bodies such as the Hoopeston Area school district, library and Grant Township will continue to receive current taxed amounts. Tax dollars from improvements will go into a special TIF fund used to pay TIF-related costs and for civic improvements to areas in the district.

In unrelated business, Alderman Bill Goodwine, filling in for Mayor Bob Ault, said Ault has received questions from local bars concerning whether they will be allowed to be open on New Year's Eve which falls on a Sunday. The issue was referred to the civic committee. Chairman Dave Borders said the committee will have a recommendation for the council at its Feb. 1 meeting.



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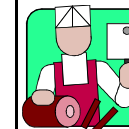
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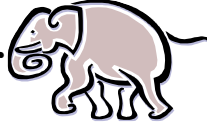
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**Briefly**

**Community service**

The Hoopeston Area Ministerial Association will hold a community unity service at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Church of God, 1004 E. Orange.

Chuck Alt of the Prairie Green Church of Christ will be the speaker.

The public is invited to attend.

**Blood drive**

The Hoopeston Junior Women's Club will sponsor a blood drive from noon to 6 p.m. Friday at the First Presbyterian Church. Walk-ins are welcome. Those who wish to schedule an appointment may call Denee Roberts at 283-6366.

**Tiny Tots**

"Ducks and Geese" is the theme of this week's Tiny

Tots story program.

The program begins at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room.


Tiny Tots is open to children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

**Business Start Up program**


The Small Business Development Center in Danville will hold a Small Business Workshop series for residents considering going into business or who have recently started a business.

The series will be held from 6-8 p.m. beginning Wednesday, Feb. 2 and run each Wednesday through March 15 at the Danville Public Library, 319 N. Vermilion. The series is free of charge.

The workshops will cover business plan preparations, budgeting, advertising and marketing, record keeping,



**New Books at the Library**



**Fiction:**

Cat Crimes by Martin H. Greenberg (mystery)

A Map of the World by Jane Hamilton (Oprah's Book Club)

Plainsong by Kent Haruf

Monster by Jonathan Kellerman

Heathersleigh Homecoming by Michael R. Phillips

The Donovan Legacy by Nora Roberts

The Lighthouse, the Cat and the Sea by Leigh W. Rutledge

Finding Grace by Mary Saracino

Fortune's Rocks by Anita Shreve

Fast Company by D. James Smith (youth)

Siam, or, the Woman Who Shot a Man by Lily Tuck

One More Time (...just for the fun of it!) by Effie Leland Wilder

**Non-fiction:**

The Smithsonian Book of North American Mammals (reference)

Consumer's Guide to Psychiatric Drugs by John Preston


Alternative Treatments for Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome by Mari Skelly

Women's Moods by Deborah Sichel

Bosom Buddies by Rosie O'Donnell


The Girlfriends' Guide to Pregnancy by Vicki Iovine

**Police News**



**Police received** a report Monday that the spark plug wires were changed on a vehicle parked in the 800 block of East McCracken.

**In the Hospital**




**Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital**

**Jan. 17**

**Admitted:** Eileen Knapp, Cissna Park; Glenn Umbanhowar, Ronald Leverenz, Regina Devillers, Samuel Ault, Hoopeston.

**Discharged:** Lucas Greenwood.

**Weather**



Increasing clouds, chance of afternoon and evening snow today. Accumulation about 1". High 34, low 15. Tomorrow, mostly sunny, windy. High 27, low 8.

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

tax and government compliance, personnel and legal matters, expanding the business, dealing with vendors, pricing goods and services, preparing bids and proposals, government contracting, inventory control, bonding and insurance, and alternative sources of financing.

Those who complete the series will receive one hour of degree credit from Danville Area Community College towards an associate's degree in the marketing mid-management program.

Seating is limited. Reservations should be made by calling Ed Adrain or Angie Craft at the Small Business De-

**Classifieds**

**HELP WANTED**

Part time teller position at Community Bank. Apply in person at main bank, 221 Bank St. 017-021

Full time or part time positions available immediately for the Food Service Department. Competitive, in-town wages, early hours, vacation and sick time benefits. Call Beth at (217) 283-5531, ext. 200 or apply at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital.

Position open for person with woodworking experience and skills. Knowledge of pattern work a plus. Wage based on experience. Please send resume or apply at: Vermilion Iron Works, P.O. box 27, 200 N. Sixth Ave., Hoopeston, IL 60942. 019-025

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

16 foot 1969 Lil Lobo Camper. Sleeps four. Gas refrigerator, porta potty, catalytic furnace, gas wall lantern. \$800. Call (217) 283-7295 after 4 p.m. 010-021

1988 Sea Ray. 19', 350 Chevy inboard, 8 passenger Merc Cruiser, lower unit. Asking \$8,000. (217) 397-2316. 019-032

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