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Wednesday, April 12, 2000
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 **www.justthefacts.tm**

V-MEG group offers assistance to police departments

Area police departments have help when it comes to investigating drug crimes.

The Vermilion Metropolitan Enforcement Group (V-MEG) assists county police departments in the war on drugs, said V-MEG deputy director Sue Culp.

Culp spoke at Monday's Hoopeston Neighborhood Watch meeting.

V-MEG "is strictly for drug enforcement," Culp said, adding the agency is comprised of representatives from the Illinois State Police, Vermilion County Sheriff's Department and Danville Police Department, plus six investigators hired by the group and four support staff.

Headquartered in Danville, V-MEG works within the county, state and even across state lines to arrest drug traffickers, Culp said. The agency uses several means, including surveillance and high-tech police work to arrest suspects on drug-related charges. "We know a lot of the people involved with drugs so it's just a matter of trying to pursue it," she said.

Rossville committee to recommend Danner as new chief

ROSSVILLE—A long-time Hoopeston police officer will be named Rossville police chief if the health and safety committee has its way.

Danny Danner will be recommended by the committee to the full board at its meeting April 17, said health/safety committee chairman Dick Hall.

The committee interviewed Danner Monday night and met with current officer Mike Bane Tuesday morning before voting 2-1 to recommend Danner.

Hall and trustee Mick Braddock voted for Danner while trustee Kay Ritter voted for Bane, Hall said.

Should the board approve Danner, he will have to move to Rossville, Hall said.

This will not be Danner's first time serving in a Ross-

A wide variety of drugs is available in the county, ranging from marijuana to crack cocaine to meth-amphetamines. In Hoopeston, V-MEG agents find cocaine and crack to be the most prevalently-used drugs, Culp said.

While many cities have reported finding several meth-amphetamine labs, Culp said in Vermilion County, only one abandoned lab has ever been found. However, she said, those who make the drug, using a combination of cold tablets, chemicals and heat, are able to manufacture it in relatively small spaces such as vehicles and motel rooms.

Drugs are a contributing factor to other crimes, Culp said. "When you have drugs in your community, you have other problems. You have theft, you have bad checks being written.

Culp urged the audience to notify police of suspected drug use, even among young family members. "You

See MEG on other side

ville uniform. He spent the first four years of his 20-year law enforcement career in Rossville before coming to the Hoopeston Police Department.

Danner started with the local department in May 1979 and retired in August 1999. During his tenure in Hoopeston, he served as patrolman, juvenile officer, investigator and was a sergeant for approximately 15 years.

Rossville has been without a police chief since Paul DeWitt retired March 19. He cited politics as the main reason for his resignation.

The village board had not planned to take action on hiring a chief for 30 days after DeWitt's resignation but discussed hiring a new chief at a special meeting approximately two weeks ago.

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Across

1. Listen carefully

5. Fell heavily

12. Toward shelter

13. Divulged

15. Ascent

16. Re birds

17. Music syllable

18. Ebenezer Scrooge, for example

20. Score at Le Mans

21. Fowl

22. Liturgy

23. Sharp flavor

24. Minute

25. Lauren Hutton or Twiggy

26. Word of honor

29. Shade of red

30. Coral isle

31. ____ au Prince, Haiti's capital

32. Detachable button

33. Canine tooth

34. Lose tautness

37. Egyptian king, for short

Down

38. All generations to come

40. Forward

41. ____ blanche

42. Upon

43. Feels happy and delighted

45. Without: French

46. Earliest

47. Weigh heavily (on)

1. Grating

2. What twins are

3. Varnish ingredient

4. Acute

5. Pecan candy

6. Frivolity

7. Sheeplike

8. Bog fuel

9. Hermes' son

10. ____ Cid

11. Determines the boundary of

14. Hang loosely

19. Extra thing added for show

20. African gully

23. Legal injury

24. Recounted

25. Unite; combine

26. Leader of the flock

27. Puts into harmony

28. Put to disorderly flight

29. Dispute

31. Flour-water mixtures

33. Coerce

34. Ravi Shankar's instrument

35. In accord; 2 words

36. Romany

38. Annoyance; slang

39. Speak hoarsely

41. Cote sound

44. Alcott heroine

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LEGAL NOTICE

The Rossville Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on Thursday, April 27th, 2000 at 7 p.m. in the Rossville Municipal building to consider the Rossville Fire Protection District's request for a change of zoning from R-1 to B-1, for the 3.0 acres north of Morts and Mann 1st Addition to the Village of Rossville and to review the zoning ordinances.

Submitted by
Gene Roach, Chairman
Zoning Board

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Two teens arrested for overnight auto burglary activity

Two boys, ages 15 and 16, were arrested in connection with five incidents of auto burglary committed Monday and Tuesday.

The 16-year-old was charged with five counts of burglary to auto. He was released to his parents. The 15-year-old faces two counts of burglary to auto. He was taken to court in Danville on Tuesday.

The incidents reported to Hoopeston police include: papers from a glove box being spread in the vehicle and a radar detector and rear view mirror missing from the 400 block of East Seminary; fishing poles, reels, a small tackle box and a plastic case of crank baits taken from a

truck in the 500 block of East McNeil; a bag phone taken from a vehicle in the 800 block of East Honeywell; an Illinois handicapped parking placard taken from a vehicle in the 400 block of East Penn. Additionally, two other vehicles were broken into but nothing taken.

In the Hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

April 10

Admitted: Clara Bartlow, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Irene Rumzis.

Weather

Partly sunny today. High 44. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 40. Tomorrow, partly sunny, breezy. High 65, low 50.

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

MEG continued from other side

kind of hate ratting them out but it's for their own good," she said.

The next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be at 7 p. m. May 1. Compliance officers Ephriam Bolin and Jim DeWitt will present the program.