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Just the Facts

Will not be printed Monday, April 24 for the Easter holiday. Publication will resume Tuesday, April 25

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Hoopeston Area high tech program gets higher, faster

Hoopeston Area schools' high tech program recently got a little higher.

The district recently installed a direct line of sight connection between Maple Grade School and a server at Hoopeston Area High School.

The technology uses antennas mounted on each building to transmit data. "This allows us to have very good communication between Maple and the server out here," said Superintendent Mark Conolly.

Maple, like other schools in the district, had relied on copper telephone lines for data transmission but "Maple's lines were always sub-par," Conolly said.

Teachers and students at Maple had difficulty transmitting information to and from their school, said James Eyrich, district network administrator. "It was the luck

Milford mayor pleads guilty

WATSEKA—Milford Mayor James Cook pleaded guilty to a charge of cruelty to animals for hitting a puppy with a shovel.

Cook was charged after an Aug. 22, 1999 incident in which he hit a six-month-old dog with a shovel at a grain elevator in Bryce.

He appeared in Iroquois County Circuit Court Tuesday.

The Class C misdemeanor is punishable by one month in jail and a fine. Cook is expected to be sentenced May 23.

Cook said he struck the dog to move it away from workers building a grain bin at the elevator. When he realized how badly the puppy was hurt, Cook hit and killed the dog.

Cook had planned to resign his position after the incident but changed his mind after a show of public support from village residents.

of the draw whether it worked or not and more often than not, it didn't," he said.

The new system uses antennas mounted on towers on each building's chimney to communicate with each other, he said.

At 11 Mb per second, the new system is faster than the existing T1 used in the district. Information on the T1 travels at 1.544 Mb per second, Eyrich said.

Additionally, there are no recurring costs with the new system, unlike monthly telephone bills for the T1.

The system cost approximately \$8,000 and was purchased with E-rate money, a kind of telephone company rebate to the school, Conolly said.

See TECH on other side

Cheneyville man requests butchering kettle be returned

CHENEYVILLE—Unidentified thieves took a cast iron kettle from a Cheneyville yard Friday night and the owner wants it back.

The old cast iron butchering kettle held dirt and flowers in Roger Reed's yard but on Saturday morning, Reed woke to find the dirt and flowers remaining and the kettle gone.

Reed reported the theft to the Vermilion County Sheriff's Department and has taken steps to find the missing item. "I've been riding all over town and Ambia (Ind.)," he said.

The kettle is described as approximately 2 feet in diameter with a short piece of chain on the handle. It has a crack down the side so "the only thing it's good for is flowers," Reed said.

Anyone with information on the kettle is asked to call (217) 283-8310.

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Easter Sale

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Briefly

Kindergarten pre-registration

Hoopeston Area kindergarten pre-registration will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 25 at Maple Grade School, 500 S. Fourth St.

The pre-registration is for parents only, who are asked to bring their child's birth certificate, shot record and Social Security number.

Free eye screening

The Illinois Lions Foundation and the Illinois Retina Associates, in conjunction with the Hoopeston Lions Club, will provide a free screening to anyone who would like to have a picture taken of their eyes to check for diabetic retinopathy.

The screening will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, April 27 at the Hoopeston Community

Nursing Home community room.

Symptoms of diabetic retinopathy include blurring, distorted, double, darkened or reduced vision. Any one of the symptoms can be an indication of the disease or one of the complications of it.

For more information, contact Lion Steve Margevich at (217) 1283-4243 or Harold Cox, 283-6374.

Health fair set

The First Christian Church of Hoopeston will sponsor a family health fair from 10 am. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 29.

The fair is designed to increase community awareness about health issues for people of all ages.

Free cholesterol and glucose screenings and blood pressure checks will be offered. Activities include education about prevention of heart disease, herbal therapy, tips on parenting difficult teens, preventing sexually transmitted diseases, teen pregnancy prevention, bicycle safety, smoking, dental hygiene, puppet shows and much more.

Bowler Appreciation Day

Friday, April 21 noon– 1 a.m. Lazer & Lights DJ

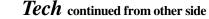
Karaoke—Prizes-All drinks \$1.50

(including 2 tickets to the fall Talladega race)

Bowl for a Buck!

Pla-Mor Lanes

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The new technology is expandable and may one day include other schools in the district but that will not happen in the near future. "We addressed the greatest need that was Maple," Conolly said.

Hoopeston Area is the only school in Vermilion County to use the new technology, although Conolly said Oakwood school officials have inquired about it. "I think it's the wave of the future," he said.

Indiana school districts, which often cover larger land areas, use the technology and it was an Indiana firm that installed the system, Eyrich said, adding the system has up to a 25-mile range.

The district had considered a fiber optic connection but that was cost-prohibitive. A plan to connect the entire district with fiber, "the ultimate system," was

Saturday, April 22 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Jerry's IGA parking lot

Butterfly pork chop sandwich \$2

w/chips & drink \$3

All proceeds to be used for Post Prom

Pork Cookout

Sponsored by the

Hoopeston Jaycees

estimated at approximately \$500,000, Eyrich said.

The change did not go unnoticed by Maple employees. "The teachers, when they came in (the day after the new system was installed), noticed the difference immediately," Eyrich said.

Police News



A boy's silver 20-inch Screamer Next bicycle was taken Tuesday from a yard in the 300 block of West Chestnut. The bike is valued at \$150.

In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital April 18

Admitted: Lillian Hahne, Danville; Lawrence Comstock, Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

Weather



Occasional showers, thunderstorms today and tonight. High 65, low 43. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 55, low 38.

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

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Production workers needed for factory in Hoopeston. Please apply in person at 701 W. Main St., Hoopeston. 104-117

HOOPESTON MIGRANT HEAD START is now accepting applications for Health Coordinator, Teachers, Mental Health Consultant. For more information, call Joan at 815-984-3706. Applications must be postmarked by April 28th, 2000. Send applications to P. O. Box 136, Wellington, IL 60973. EOE.

Help wanted. Apply in person at Olympic Hardware, 516 N. Dixie Hwy., Hoopeston. Mechanical ability a plus. 109-112

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Spinet piano for sale. Action rebuilt. Walnut finish with padded bench. Call (217) 283-7490, leave message. 108-112

Good used lawn mowers. \$20-\$50. Call Larry or Joe at (217) 283-5380.

RUMMAGE SALES

Huge garage sale. 4 Family. Friday, April 21, Saturday, April 22. 642 E. McNeil, Hoopeston. 8-? New and used items too numerous to mention. Bargains galore!

Call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad