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Rossville village board to reconvene on property tax issue

ROSSVILLE—The village board is expected to officially implement a property tax at a reconvened meeting Thursday.

At Monday's regular meeting, trustees approved holding a reconvened session at 7 p.m. Thursday to vote on instituting a property tax of 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

The tax is expected to generate \$18,700 annually and add about \$41 to the tax bill on a \$60,000 home.

The money is earmarked for village payments to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

In other action Monday, the board approved vacation time and personal days for full time employees.

Employees will receive five days after the first year. Employees with two to 10 years' service will get 10 days; 11-19 years, 15 days; and more than 20

years, 20 days.

Vacation days are non-accumulative and employees will not be paid for unused vacation days.

Full time employees will also receive seven personal days which are also non-accumulative; however employees will be paid at the end of the year for unused personal days.

In other action, the board:

- approved an annual \$200 tax for businesses selling cigarettes.
- learned "welcome to Rossville" signs are expected to be put up by Jan. 1, 2001.
- approved monetary awards for employee safety.
- made business licenses for juke boxes and gaming machines payable Jan. 1. The license also covers liquor license classifications.

Briefly

DACC at Hoopeston

Danville Area Community College will host a College Day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2001 at Hoopeston Community Nursing Home's community room.

Information and registration for Spring 2001 classes, off-campus offerings, Internet options, continuing education and microcomputer workshops and other programs will be available.

On-site registration and referrals will also be available. The event is open to the public.

For more information, contact Laura Williams at (217) 443-8598.

Charity auction

Hoopeston Area Middle School will host its annual charity auction beginning at noon Thursday. Money raised will be donated to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Food for Fines

The Hoopeston Public Library will accept canned goods and paper products as payment for fines during December.

Items will be donated to the Grant Township Food Cupboard.

Early dismissal

Hoopeston Area schools will dismiss early Thursday for the start of Christmas vacation.

Grade school students will be dismissed at 2:05 p.m. followed by middle and high school students at 2:20.

Classes will resume Jan. 2.

Tiny Tots

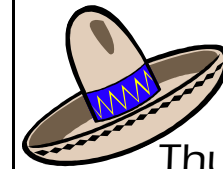
Tiny Tots story program will not be held this week at the Hoopeston Public Library. The program will resume at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 5.



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For
Arliss & Marilyn
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Refreshments served

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FRIDAY, Dec. 22 (& 4/24, 1/19, 2/16 & 3/16)
• HOOPESTON • BAER'S MOTEL
 • jct. Rtes. 1 & 9 • 3-4:30 pm (1-1/2 hr. only)

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Just the Facts

Wishes you the most joyous Christmas & the happiest New Year!

Just the Facts will not be printed Monday or Tuesday. Publication will resume Wednesday.

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Letters to the Editor

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'Day, Hoopeston.

This year my family and I had the great pleasure of having a Hoopeston Area Senior High School student live with us in our home in Roleystone, Western Australia. His name was Brandon Young.

From Brandon, I have learned much about your small community and your way of life in Illinois. I have come to understand, through Brandon's excellent ambassadorship, that cultural stereotyping is not a very accurate way to view the world and that tolerance is the way to go.

My first impression of Hoopeston was my idea of how Oklahoma should look. I was always tempted to burst into "There's A Bright Golden Haze on the Meadow" when I saw the fields of sweet corn. Roleystone has no claim to fame like Hoopeston being the "Corn Capitol of the World" and home of the Cornjerkers.

Roleystone, where I live, is a small community in the hills overlooking Perth, West Australia. It has about the same population as Hoopeston. It is surrounded by what is called in Australia "The Bush." This "bush" is literally hundreds of thousands of densely timber-covered acres. You would probably call it a forest. There are no fences around our property so a continuous parade of our un-

usual wildlife is ever on view: kangaroos, bandicoots, antichinus, goannas, lizards, snakes (all venomous) a whole stack of spiders and a recently-discovered very large hole in the planter indicating a wombat. Sorry, no koalas, they only live in the eastern states.

So as you up there are covered in snow (a once in a hundred years event in Perth) and prepare to roast a turkey, I'm down here 14,000 miles away, sweltering and preparing to chuck a prawn on the "Barbie." I want you to know that we are thinking of you all and will raise our glasses to wish the people of Hoopeston "Merry Christmas" and a New Year filled with prosperity and tolerance.

Jackie Elliott
Brandon's Australian Mum

New Books at the Library

Non-fiction:
The O'Reilly Factor by Bill O'Reilly
A Short Guide to a Happy Life by Anna Quindlen

Police News

Linda G. Martinez, 43, of 204 E. Young, was arrested at 6 p.m. Tuesday at 301 W. Main on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear for arraignment. She was released on \$300 cash bond.

In the Hospital

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
Dec. 19

Admitted: none.
Discharged: Harry Magee, Murrell Briglow.

Weather

Light snow or flurries, blowing and drifting snow today. High 13 falling to 0 by evening. Tonight, light snow. Low -5 with wind chills of -30. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 7, low -7.

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

Obituaries

PRUITT—Cora E. Pruitt, 54, of Hoopeston, died at 1:11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2000 at her daughter's home in East Lynn. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Wolfe Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society.

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