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Hoopeston will not donate ground for prison: Mayor Ault

Contrary to area media reports, Hoopeston will not donate land if a new maximum security prison is built here.

A recent article said the city will contribute 200 acres for the prison. However, that is "a little misunderstanding," said Mayor Bob Ault on Friday.

"We have never said the land would be provided to the prison," he said.

Instead, the city has an option on the land, located west of Hoopeston on Rt. 9. If officials decide to build the prison here, the city will exercise that option and, in turn, sell the land to the Department of Corrections, Ault

said. The option was necessary so that if Hoopeston is awarded the prison, there will be no delay in obtaining land prior to construction, he said.

Department of Corrections engineers and financial experts have examined the site—along with those in Wenona and Grayville—to include information presented to Gov. George Ryan.

Ault said he remains optimistic about Hoopeston's chance to land the 1,800-bed, \$140 million facility. Citing available water and sewer capacity, the unemployment rate and "I feel that it still looks good," he said. "I can't help but feel that way.

Briefly

Multi Agency van schedule

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency transportation project is: Monday, Hoopeston shuttle; Tuesday, Bloomington (leave at 9 a.m.); Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville.

For more information or to arrange a ride, call the Multi Agency at (217) 283-5544.

Community center activities include: Monday, ladies bridge, noon; Thursday, men's coffee, 9:30 a.m., men's euchre, noon.

This week's Teen Reach activities are: Monday, games; Tuesday, Hank Hornbeck, career night, 5:30; Wednesday, Kids Cook; Thursday, games; Friday, karaoke.

Sweetheart Banquet

The 10th annual Sweetheart Banquet for senior citizens will be held at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16 at the Hoopeston Area High School gym.

The event is hosted by the high school Drama Depart-

ment, S.A.A.D., Authors' Society and Student Council.

Hoopeston Area seniors interested in attending must make reservations by Feb. 5. For reservations or more information, call (217) 283-6668.

Library candidates

Two incumbents and a newcomer are running for three seats on the Hoopeston Public Library board.

Incumbents

GED classes

Anyone interested in evening GED classes in Ross-ville this spring is asked to call Cathy Douglass, 748-6044 or Judy Henry, 748-6650. Deadline to sign up for the spring session offered by DACC, is Feb. 1.

Free books

The Hoopeston Public Library is spring cleaning the shelves and now there are a lot of books that need a new home.

Check the library book sale cart and table for free books and magazines until Feb. 28.



Ranch burgers

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WALK-INS OR APPOINTMENTS

Police News

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 6:04 p.m. Friday in the 400 block of South Euclid.
Police said Zachary W. Cobb of Hoopeston, in a 1984 Oldsmobile Cutlass, was southbound on Euclid when his tires went off the side of the road. Cobb over-corrected, slid off the road and hit a street sign.
Bruce A. Inman, 38, of 202 E. Main, Apt. 202, was arrested at 12:10 a.m. Saturday in the 200 block of East

Main.
Inman was charged with obscenity on a complaint from a 17-year-old Hoopeston woman, police said.
He was released on a notice to appear.
Todd L. Beatty, 34, of 619 W. Elm, was arrested at 9:16 a.m. Saturday in the 600 block of West Elm.
Beatty was charged with theft by deception and was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 12:08 a.m. Sunday in the 400 block of West Maple.
Police said Dennis D. David of 857 E. Penn, backed his 1980 Ford van from a driveway into a parked 1984 Oldsmobile Delta.
A **30-year-old** Kankakee man reported at 12:30 a.m. Sunday that he was beaten up during an altercation in the alley behind Main Street Inn, 306 E. Main.

Special Budweiser Classic brings area bowlers to Hoopeston

A special Saturday Budweiser Classic brought 56 bowlers to Hoopeston, some from as far away as Clinton.
The tournament, held Jan. 20, was hosted on Saturday because Hoopeston does not allow Sunday alcohol sales.
On the low side, 24 bowlers started the tourney. Top five action started with fifth seed Jim Berry lost 211-152 to number four, Hank Longfellow. Longfellow lost to third seed Michael Seward, who started slowly but pulled ahead 215-176. Seward then defeated second seed Greg Hacker, 199-160. The final on the low side pitted Seward against top seeds Jeff Pope. Seward hung on to unseat Pope in a close 198-

186 victory.
On the high side, of bowlers with an average over 195, fifth seed Kenny McVicker lost to fourth seed Scott Blanchard by a 249-200 score. Blanchard's victory was short-lived as he was defeated by number three Doug Wagoner, 209-152. Another Hoopeston bowler, Tony Gress, topped Wagoner, showing his dominance by winning 183-177. Gress then topped Jerome Nelson Sr. 202-166, sending him to the finals.
In the championship match, it was the low side over the high side as Seward defeated Gress 183-171.
The next tournament will be held Feb. 18 at Ridge Farm.

Registration, voting aids available to elderly, handicapped

Vermilion County residents who, due to a disability, are unable to register to vote in person may contact the County Clerk Voter Registration Department at (217) 431-2611 for assistance. The department can arrange for

a bipartisan team of deputy registrars to provide in-home registration assistance. The last day to register to vote before the April 3 election is Tuesday, March 6.
Additionally, those who are disabled or incapacitated may request an absentee ballot application after Feb. 22. The last day an absentee ballot may be mailed is March 29. For more information on absentee voting, call (217) 431-2614.

Obituaries

HUCKLEBY—Ethel May Huckleby, 88, of Hoopeston, died at 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2001, at Hoopeston Community Nursing Home. Funeral services were at 11 a.m. Saturday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial was in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation was 5-8 Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to West Side Church of the Nazarene, 520 N. Tenth, Hoopeston, IL 60942.

Weather

Rain today. High 45. Tonight, windy, light rain or drizzle. Low 35. Tomorrow, windy, rain changing to snow. Temperatures steady at about 35.
For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston Weather Line** at (217) 283-6221.

New Books at the Library

Non-fiction:
by Francois Fortin
Blue Fairways by Charles Slack
Sosa by Sammy Sosa
Lincoln at Gettysburg by Garry Wills
Talking Books:
Blood and Smoke by Stephen King
Icebound by Dean Koontz
If Life is a Game, These are the Rules by Cherie Carter-Scott
CD:
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