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Alderman explains decision not to donate land for prison

Hoopeston officials opted not to donate land for a maximum security prison for economic reasons, according to a city alderman.

Resident Millie Sullivan, at Tuesday's council meeting questioned why the city is not donating land on which to build an 1,800-bed maximum security prison.

"When businesses come to town, they want everything," said Alderman Bill Goodwine, finance committee chairman. "They're looking for the highest bid. It's hard for me to believe a state government would do that to a local government."

It would cost approximately \$800,000 to purchase the

needed 180 acres, Goodwine said. The city has money in reserves and has good enough credit to borrow that amount but chose not to after state Rep. Bill Black (R-Danville) "indicated (donating the land) wasn't a factor," Goodwine said.

The importance of the \$800,000 land cost is relative, Goodwine said. "Out of \$140 million (the estimated cost of the prison), it's practically nothing but to the people of Hoopeston, if we borrowed \$800,000, \$900,000 or even \$1 million, it's \$117,000 a year in payments," he said.

The money needed to make the payments could represent big cuts in the city budget. Goodwine cited this year's budget, which included cuts in equipment purchases as well as smaller raises for employees. "That \$117,000 could be hard to come up with," he said.


Additionally, said Mayor Bob Ault, prison officials were aware when the city submitted its application that the land was not included in the proposal.

In unrelated action, the council accepted a \$4,300 bid from Russell Leigh & Associates to do the May audit. The cost is down from \$4,800 the last several years because Leigh is overseeing the city's books. "I think it's a fair proposal," Goodwine said.

Grand Opening
Feb. 8-14



Unger's Jewelry
314 E. Main St.
Hoopeston, IL 60942
Fine jewelry—Watches
Gifts—Engraving
Pentax Binoculars
Free carnations
to first 50 people

Maui Club
9 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10
No cover charge
BJ's Pump 
1023 W. Main, Hoopeston (217) 283-5700

Say *I love you* with flowers.

They really do say it best—

We have beautiful, charming and
fragrant blooms from **\$3.98**

Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert


702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days

Cousins Catering 
(Captain Chicken)
Will be cooking
5-8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9.
Your choice of 3 pc. Chicken dinner or pot roast,
mashed potatoes, gravy, salad. Dessert extra.
American Legion
502 E. Penn, Hoopeston



Tacos
\$1.25
Thursdays at the
VFW
\$1 beer, free jukebox
Fourth Ave. & West Orange, Hoopeston

Performance
Diesel Service
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CaseIH•John Deere•Allis Chalmers
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On-Farm Service
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Greg Samet Bob Marshall



DANCE
 Saturday, Feb. 10
 9 p.m.-1 a.m.
American Legion
 502 E. Penn
 Featuring **Southern Justice**
 \$3 single, \$5 couple

Petquarters @ Oat's
(217) 283-9999

- ◆ Full Service Grooming
- ◆ Professional Accredited Groomer
- ◆ Graduate of Animal Arts Academy
- ◆ Located at Oat's Bait Shop, Hoopeston

WE LOVE DOGS!!

**Winter Wonderland
 Valentine's Dance**
 Saturday, Feb. 10 9 p.m.-midnight
 At the **VFW**
 Featuring *RV's Escapees*
 50/50 drawing, prizes & more
 \$2 single, \$3 couple

ARE YOU
 (or anyone you know)
HURTING, SICK OR DEPRESSED?
 Come for *SUPPORT,*
ENCOURAGEMENT & ANSWERS
 at New Bethel Fellowship Hall
 201 N. Chicago, Rossville, IL
 Thursday nights, 7 p.m.

Briefly

GED classes
 Free GED classes will begin Feb. 15 at the Hoopeston Multi Agency. The first class will be held from 4-6 p.m. followed by a class from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Classes will meeting Monday and Thursday nights.
 For more information, call the Hoopeston Multi Agency at (217) 283-5544.

Chili supper
 The Rossville-Alvin class of 2004 will hold a chili supper from 4-6:30 p.m. Friday in the high school cafeteria. The supper will be held before the basketball game against Armstrong-Potomac.

Tax help
 The Hoopeston Multi Agency is offering free tax assistance to senior citizens and disabled residents. Income guidelines apply and are \$15,000 or less for a one-person household or a maximum of \$31,500 for a two-person household.
 For more information or an appointment, call the

Police News 

Numerous items were reported taken from a home in the 500 block of West Elm. The items were taken sometime after Jan. 25.
 The burglary was reported Tuesday.
Jason H. Matthews, 17, of 321 W. Lincoln, was arrested at 12:34 p.m. Tuesday at 1030 W. Chestnut.
 Matthews was wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for two counts of criminal damage to state supported property over \$300.
 He was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.



Steak Fry
Hubbard Trail
Country Club
 Serving 5:30-8 p.m. Friday
Open to the Public!
 13937 N 3680 E Rd. (217) 748-6521

Multi Agency at (217) 283-5544.

Health department offers vaccine
 The Vermilion County Health Department is now offering Prevnar, the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine for infants and toddlers.

The Department of Health and Human Services said pneumococcal disease is the leading cause of bacterial meningitis in the U.S., and causes health problems, including meningitis, in children under the age of five.

For more information about the vaccine, contact the Vermilion County Health Department at (217) 431-2662 or the department's website at www.vchd.org.

Auction items needed
 Items are needed for the third annual Hoopeston Multi Agency auction. The agency is looking for household furniture, kitchen items, tools, etc.

Anyone wishing to donate items or who would like


In the Hospital 

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
Feb. 6
Admitted: Gilbert Wilson, Bertha Savage, Hoopeston.
Discharged: Ludmilla Slusarski, Nicole Foster.

Weather 

Showers, thunderstorms today. High 60. Tonight, scatter showers. Low 48. Tomorrow, rain changing to light snow. High 48, low 17.

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

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more information may call the Multi Agency at (217) 283-5544.

Watseka Community High School Band Booster
"Raffle"
 Every Saturday night
 Doors open at 6
Early Bird Game 6:30
First Game 7 p.m.
 Cash Prizes Progressive Pots
East Side Bowl
 Rtes. 1 & 24 E., Watseka, IL
Must be 18. Proceeds benefit WCHS Band program

B	I	N	G	O

Wolfe
Funeral Home
 907 W. Main St.
 Hoopeston, IL.
 (217) 283-5088

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT
 Large 2 bedroom upstairs apartment. References, security deposit, first month required. Call (217) 283-7920 after 5 p.m.
 038-tfh

HELP WANTED
 Rossville retail business needs part time salesperson 2-3 days/week. Some sewing skills helpful. Send letter to Job Application, 11360 E. 3400 North Rd., Rossville, IL 60663.
 038-040

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE
 1988 Toyota pickup. Runs good. \$1,000 OBO. (217) 283-5122.
Call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad