

North Fork Conservation Club



Friday 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
At the club
Fish, chicken, shrimp & clam dinners
plus 2 sides **\$5.50**

Hubbard Trail

(217) 748-6521 1397 N 3680 E Rd., Rossville
**Will be closed
in January & February**
*We'd like to say Thank You for your pa-
tronage and we look forward to
seeing you in March.*

just the facts

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Hoopeston budget meeting targets 7 months into fiscal year

Seven months into the fiscal year, Hoopeston's budget is going as planned.

"Income looks pretty good," said Hoopeston finance committee chairman Alderman Bill Goodwine after Wednesday's city council meeting. "There's nothing in expenses that jumps out," he added.

While few discrepancies may mean good planning, there is a downside. "We budgeted a deficit and we have a deficit," Goodwine said.

The finance committee will meet at 10 a.m. Monday to review the numbers.

In other business, the city's civic improvement committee won't make any noise about train whistles in town.

At the Dec. 18 meeting, resident George Goodwine requested the city consider a ban on train whistles in the city limits.

However, committee chairman Ed Lotz said the civic improvement committee meeting would not make that recommendation. "Everybody seems to be in

favor of keeping the whistle," he said.

While not disagreeing with the recommendation, Alderman John Haughee said a long, steady blast often heard by residents "is not regulation in my opinion." According to railroad regulations, trains are to blow two short blasts and one long one while approaching crossings. The constant long blast "is less effective than if you have two longs and a short," he said.

Two other issues before the civic improvement committee—a fence ordinance and examining liquor ordinances—are still being considered.

Haughee suggested residents who have suggestions for the fence ordinance mail them to city hall, at 301 W. Main. "If you have some thoughts, let us know about them," he said.

As for liquor laws, which includes a request to allow some type of Sunday sales, Lotz said the committee expects to reach a recommendation this month although a committee meeting was not announced.

The next city council meeting is at 7 p.m. Jan.

Briefly

Neighborhood Watch

The Hoopeston Police Department's Neighborhood Watch program will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 7 at Country Terrace. Representatives from C.R.I.S. Senior Services will speak on the functions they perform and how they assist law enforcement.

Officer candidates sought

The Hoopeston Police Department is accepting applications for police officer. Applications may be picked up at city hall or are available upon request by calling the police department at (217) 283-5196.

Applications must be returned by 4 p.m. Jan. 31.

The written test will be given at 6 p.m. Feb. 7 at the municipal building, 301 W. Main.

Candidates must be 21 years old with no felony or serious misdemeanor arrests. Successful candidates must be able to pass a physical agility test, oral interview, medical examination and thorough background investigation.

Carle trauma center redesignated

Carle Foundation Hospital has been redesignated as a Level I Trauma Center for Emergency Medical services, Region VI in Illinois until August

After Christmas Sale

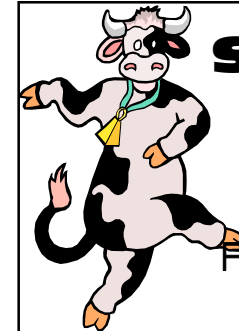
Christmas Grab Bag added

50¢ each

More things added daily

Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert

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



Steak Fry

Friday, Jan. 4



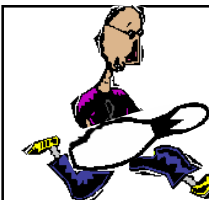
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Rock 'N' Bowl

Saturday, Jan. 5

Check in at 8

p.m.

Bowl at 8:30 p.m.

Pla-Mor Lanes



Tired of turkey?

Come to the

VFW

For frog legs, fish & smelt

11 a.m.-1 p.m. & 3-7 p.m. Friday

Fourth Ave. & West Orange



Don't be left out!

List your organization's information on

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Jeep



Police News



No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 2:20 p.m. Sunday at 225 E. Orange.

Police said Joseph D. Sloan of Park Hall, Md., backed a 1999 Ford E450 into a parked 1999 Pontiac Grand Am owned by Teresa Martin.

Two 17-year-olds were arrested at 10:56 p.m. Sunday in the 200 block of South First Ave.

Tyler B. Fritz, 407 S. Grove, Rossville, and Jesse J. Wisecup, 29155 N 2000 E. Rd., Alvin, were charged with illegal transportation of alcohol after

Social Security, SSI benefits get 2.6 percent hike in 2002

Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits to more than two million Illinois residents will increase 2.6 percent in 2002. They are among 50 million beneficiaries nationwide who will receive the increase.

The increase will begin with benefits that 1,840,206 Social Security beneficiaries (45 million nationwide) will receive in January. Increased payments to more than 248,777 SSI beneficiaries (6 million nationwide) will begin Dec. 31.

The increase will also mean a 2.6 percent increase in the amount of cash beneficiaries in the area will have to spend, an important consideration in today's

**Social
Security
& You**



economy. Currently, more than \$1.4 billion is paid to Illinois residents annually.

The monthly benefit amount for all retired workers will rise from \$852 to \$874. The maximum federal SSI monthly payment to an individual will increase from \$531 to \$545. For a couple, the maximum SSI payment will

rise from \$796 to \$817.

The annual cost-of-living adjustment is one of the most critically important features of the Social Security program. For the elderly, it guarantees that their foundation of retirement income will remain strong for as long as they live.

Social Security and SSI benefits increase automatically each year based on the rise in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers from the third quarter of one year to the third quarter in the next.

Some other changes effective each January are based on the increase in average wages. The maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax will increase to \$84,900 up from \$80,400. Of about 154 million workers who pay Social Security taxes, only about 10.5 million are affected by the higher wage base. Earnings needed to earn a quarter of coverage will go to \$870, up from \$830.

For more information, please visit

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 30. Tonight, clear. Low 17. Tomorrow, light snow towards evening. High 34, low 18.

For current weather conditions, call the Hoopes-

they were stopped by police, suspected of shining a high-beam spotlight at oncoming traffic.

Each was released on a notice to appear.

A 34-year-old Hoopeston man reported Tuesday that his windshield was damaged while his car was parked at Pla-Mor Lanes, 719 W. Elm.

A 47-year-old Kentland, Ind., man reported Tuesday that someone broke into a building in the 200 block of North Tenth Ave. and took stereo and electronic gear.

Classifieds

ADULT CARE

Will do private care for elderly. References available. Call (217) 283-5399.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Very nice, modern 2 bedroom, second floor apartment. Kitchen appliances furnished, water furnished. No pets, no smokers. \$425/mo plus deposit. Phone (217) 283-9698 or 283-6990 for appointment to see.

HOUSES FOR RENT

2 bedroom w/basement. New carpets, pain. Built-in oven & stove. Refrigerator, dishwasher. 1 car garage. \$400/mo, deposit, references. (217) 283-5769. Available Feb. 1

HOUSES FOR SALE

Single story 3-4 bedroom with full basement and garage. 624 E. Young in Hoopeston. \$35,000. Phone (217) 283-9698 or 283-6990 for appointment to see.

LOST & FOUND

2 medium-sized black dogs, Lab/Retriever mix. Answer to Shadow and Magic. Last seen on West Elm. Call (217) 283-6020, ask for Patrick or Tira.

WANTED

Your used artificial Christmas trees. Will pick up. (217) 776-2422 or (217) 286-3406

**Call (217) 283-9348
to place your ad**

Lunch Menus



Hoopeston Area Grade Schools

THURSDAY: Sausage pizza, salad, pears, milk.

FRIDAY: French toast sticks/syrup, sausage links, fruit juice, oranges, milk.

Hoopeston Area Middle/High School

THURSDAY: Sausage pizza or breaded pork/bun, salad, fruit cocktail, milk.

FRIDAY: Grilled cheese, vegetable or

Obituaries

GOBLE—John E. Goble, 43, of Henning died at noon Monday, Dec. 31, 2001 at home. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Sunset Funeral Home and Cremation Center, Danville. Burial will be in Allhands Cemetery, Kickapoo. Visitation was 4-8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to his children's education.