

LORRAINE

Screen 1: "Men In Black 2" (PG-13)

Presented in 8-channel SDDS/HPS-4000

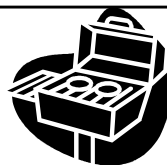
Wed., July 3, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m.; Thurs., Fri., Sat., 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 p.m., Sun., 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 p.m.;
Mon.-Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

Screen 2: "Minority Report" (PG-13)

Scope. presented in Dolby SR Stereo

7 p.m. nightly; 9:45 p.m. Fri. & Sat.;
3 p.m. Thurs., Fri., Sat., & Sun.

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owner/publisher

Just the Facts[©]

Phone/Fax:

(217) 283-9348

Email:

publish@justthefacts.net

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Police Training Institute meets need for teaching new cops

Since Lois Welling has to work for a living, she's glad she has the job she does.

"There's never a dull moment," said Welling, administrative assistant to the director of the Police Training Institute (PTI) at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. "If you have to work for a living, that's the place to do it."

Welling was the featured speaker at Monday's Neighborhood Watch meeting.

The institute was established in 1955, when the Association of Police Chiefs decided officer training should be standardized. Before 1955, officers were hired off the street and "if you didn't wreck a car and didn't have an

See COPS on other side

Area railroad crossings get state-approved safety upgrades



Beating an oncoming train on Rt. 9 will be a little more difficult soon.

A CSX Railroad crew installed new signals at the crossing Tuesday. Arms will be added to the signals, blocking traffic from crossing when a train approaches, said crew foreman Ed Jarvis.

Jarvis, along with crewmen Rick Blacketer, Mike Holcomb and Steve Denney, all based in the Terre Haute, Ind., CSX office, cover the rail line between Woodland and Evansville, Ind.

The crew also installed a new "house" on the south side of Rt. 9, to provide shelter for signal power and will tear down an old house on the north side of the highway. New rock will also be put around the house

and signals, Jarvis said.

Other area crossings are scheduled to be upgraded, as well. The Illinois Commerce Commission recently approved installing new signals at the Henderson St. crossing in Rossville. The village will pay 10 percent of the estimated \$127,000 cost, with a maximum of \$12,659. The railroad will pay five percent and the Illinois Grade Crossing Protection Fund will pay the remainder.

Money in the Grade Crossing Protection Fund comes from a part of the state's gasoline tax. The program is administered by the Illinois Commerce Commission.

The Henderson crossing was the site of an accident in 1999 when the driver turned in front of the train on the crossing. Henderson curves and rises to the crossing, which village officials have said is a safety concern.

Other CSX crossings between Hoopeston and Wellington have been surveyed and will be upgraded with safety features, Jarvis said.

CSX crewmen Rick Blacketer, Mike Holcomb, Ed Jarvis and Steve Denney install a new crossing signal on Rt. 9. Crossing arms will be added to the gate.

Photo by Lourdine Florek

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July 6 9 a.m.-4 p.m.



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Cops continued from other side

accidental discharge of firearms, you probably were in," Welling said.

Although training was established in 1955, it did not become mandated officer training until 1976. Since then, all full-time officers have gone through a training program. A program for part-time officers was later added, as was a two-week transitional course for officers going from part- to full-time status.

PTI is one of six basic training sites in Illinois. Others include the Chicago Police Department, Cook and DuPage county departments, Belleville Area College and the Illinois State Police. The U of I program "is the only one that trains full time and we're the best," Welling said.

The program started out as a four-week course. It was later expanded to six, 10 and now 12 weeks. Recruits, such as Hoopeston's newest officer, Adam Watson, say on-campus. They have an 8 p.m. curfew, except for night training sessions, which allows them to begin training at 5:40 a.m. They are not allowed to smoke or drink in the four bedroom/two bath apartments they share during training, Welling said.

The length of the course is not the only thing to have changed over the years. Most training - except defensive tactics and weapons education - used to be done through lectures; however now recruits receive hands-on training

Briefly

Taco supper

The senior youth group of St. Anthony Catholic Church will host a taco dinner from 4-7 p.m. Saturday, July 6 at the church parish hall. Proceeds will go to fund the group's service project in New Orleans later this month.

Summer Reading Club

First and second grade members of the Summer Reading Club will meet at 2 p.m. Friday at the Hoopeston Public Library. Also, for pre-kindergarten and kindergartners, Gloria Young of the U of I Extension will present a program at 10:30 a.m. Friday. Youngsters may wear their pajamas to the presentation.

City slab to close

The Hoopeston city slab will be closed July 6 so residents can enjoy the holiday with their families.

through role-playing in scenarios, control tactics and other facets. Recently, PTI began teaching police Spanish to help new officers deal with non-English speaking people.

Recruits begin their day with physical training at the Champaign Armory, led by two members of the Champaign SWAT team. After a shower, the class may have breakfast in the residence hall before attending classes, playing out scenarios or receiving other training.

Recruits, divided into squads, are monitored by instructors who pick out squad leaders early on. Instructors also watch recruits in order to complete assessments which are sent to each recruit's police chief or field training officer.

Scenarios are also monitored - and videotaped - for each recruit's department. Scenarios, which also begin early in the training, start out simply, with the recruit answering a stolen bicycle call. And while the premise is simple, the recruits are treated to what dealing with the public can be like as a role-player acts as an irate citizen. The role player will confront the recruit about the slow response time and other problems. By the end of the experience, recruits are rattled. "Their hands are shaking," Welling said. "They're not used to confrontation."

Nerve-racking for the recruit, scenarios, in which recruits are called names, have their parental lineage questioned and are sometimes challenged physically, teach trainees to remain calm. "An officer in Illinois gives up the right to be disturbed," Welling said.

Many recruits have to learn to think in a different way. After watching television shows such as "COPS", recruits often have a mindset of nabbing the bad guy. "If your objective is to get the guy, you're going to make mistakes," Welling said. "The only time we use videos of "COPS" is as a bad example."

For an officer to attend PTI costs \$3,600 for room, board and ammunition. Once a recruit has successfully

Weather



Partly sunny today. High 88. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 68. Saturday and Sunday, clear. High Saturday, 88, low 69. Sunday's high 92, low 70.

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

completed the course, the fee is refunded by the state, which uses money from fines, she said.

"We're really proud of what we have to offer the students," Welling said, "because it's hands-on stuff. "We're turning out better walking, talking officers."

Police News



A 31-year-old Hoopeston woman reported Tuesday that a cell phone was lost or stolen from her back pocket.

Jason K. Simonton, 20, of 41660 N. Main St., East Lynn, was charged with disorderly conduct after police said he nearly hit the vehicle of a 25-year-old Hoopeston woman and used obscene language. The incident occurred at 6:39 p.m. Tuesday in the 400 block of East Young.

Simonton was released on a notice to appear.

Classifieds

CHILD CARE

Licensed daycare has full time opening. If interested please call Jen at 283-9660.

HELP WANTED

Luigi's Spicy Meatball located in Paxton has openings for bartenders, waitresses and cook. Call (217) 379-9800. Ask for Sal or Rita. 184-191

HOUSES FOR RENT

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RUMMAGE SALES

628 W. Chestnut, Hoopeston. Saturday, July 6, 8-1. Sony Surround Sound, bookshelf, Combo Climber, girls clothes, Scooby twin sheets & comforters, outside toys, misc.

723 S. Second Ave., Hoopeston. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 8-4. 3 family sale. Baby clothes-8 yrs., some adult clothes, misc.

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