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Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

www.justthefacts.net

Hoopeston budget funds employee raises, has surplus

Hoopeston employees will get a 2.75 percent raise in a budget that has a surplus of nearly \$43,000.

The Hoopeston City Council unanimously approved the 2004 budget with income of \$1.8 million and normal expenses of \$1.57 million. Other one-time expenses and accruals for major purchases leaves the budget in the black by \$42,896, up from a \$777 surplus last year, said Alderman Bill Goodwine, city finance committee chairman.

The raise means city workers will receive, on average, about 35.5 cents per hour more, including a 20 cent raise given earlier this year and an extra holiday, Goodwine said.

In other action, the council received a petition with 120 signatures presented by Kathleen Margevich of the Academy for the Performing Arts. Signers of the peti-

tion are "begging you to swiftly ban dogs on Main St., not wait a million years," Margevich said.

Alderman Ed Lotz, chairman of the police committee, said police are addressing concerns of merchants. Foot patrols have been initiated in the downtown, and an additional four hours of patrol will be done each week with times rotated throughout the day. Also, Police Chief Mark Drollinger will review ordinances from other communities that have banned dogs in the business districts and will make a recommendation to the council about a similar ordinance here, he said.

In other business, the council approved a contract with Tax Increment Financing consultant Tom Jacobs & Associates for \$30,000 to oversee two new TIFs. Jacobs will also receive about 10 percent of the tax increment for three years.

Rossville-Alvin to host meeting with B-H, HA boards

ROSSVILLE—Rossville-Alvin school officials will host an informal meeting Thursday with school boards from Bismarck-Henning and Hoopeston Area.

The meeting will be a brainstorming session on Rossville-Alvin's plan to deactivate its high school and the ramifications of that decision, said RA Superintendent Carl Sartwell. "Really, we just want to get together and ask questions, not necessarily answer them," he said.

The meeting will be a springboard for the Rossville-Alvin board to develop a plan for students and staff and one for the public, to educate them on the reasons for the proposed deactivation, he said.

The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the grade school library and is open to the public.

In other action, the board:

- accepted Mark Janesky's resignation as grade school principal, effective at the end of the school year. Janesky has been named superintendent of the Jamaica school district.
- accepted math teacher Mike Henry's resignation. Henry is retiring after 32 years as a teacher.
- hired Karla Ballengee as high school cheerleading coach and Debra Goodlove as a personal special education aide for the rest of the year.
- increased the driver's education fee from \$30 to \$50 next year.
- approved a \$1,845 bid from XCel Mechanical for summer boiler work and a \$1,594 bid from CMI for high school and grade school gym refinishing
- approved a \$1,000 stipend to the RA Beta Club. The group won state competition and will travel to Atlanta during the summer for a national competition.

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Police News



A **71-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported Monday that several items were taken from her yard at Parkview Court, including a table and yard ornaments. A welcome sign was also broken.

Randy L. Richards, 31, of 512 E. Main, turned himself in to police at 5:20 p.m. Monday.

Richards, wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear, was released on \$200 cash bond.

Tacos

Ranch burgers

Wednesdays

Mondays
5-8 p.m.



5-8

p.m

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Please call for appointment or questions.

Morning Star Academy

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Preschool-Kindergarten-1st & 2nd Grades



Elijah L. Hunt, 17, of 309 E. McCracken and a 14-year-old boy were arrested at 12:12 a.m. Tuesday at East McCracken and Third St. Each was charged with illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor.

Additionally, the 14-year-old was wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear.

Rossville officer resigns, board seeks trained replacement

ROSSVILLE—The village is looking for a new fulltime police officer.

At Monday's meeting, the board learned that Officer John Beckley resigned to accept other employment. Beckley will stay on as a parttime officer. "He's a credit to the uniform," said trustee Vic Lackey, head of the village health and safety committee. "He'll be missed."

Officials hope to find a candidate who has Police Training Institute certification.

In other business, the board:

- learned the gas rate will stay at 80 cents per therm.
- approved spending \$1,069 on new computer for

The boy was released to a guardian on a \$3,000 recognizance bond.

Hunt was released on a notice to appear.

A **42-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported at 3:30 a.m. Tuesday that her cream-colored 1979 Chevrolet Caprice had been taken from the 300 block of East Seminary. The keys had been left in

the business office

- set village-wide cleanup day as May 22. The cost to the village will be more than \$3,600, up from approximately \$3,300 last year. An appliance pickup, with a \$10 per appliance fee, will also be available to residents.

- will support a bill to repeal the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit fees. House Bill 3828 which would eliminate the fees imposed last year. The charge was enacted after municipalities had established their budgets.

The village paid the tax under protest last year, said Mayor Terry Prillaman.

- will reconvene at 7 p.m. Monday to adopt

Briefly

CPR recertification

Hoopeston Regional Health Center will hold CPR recertification classes at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Classes will be held from 5-9 p.m. May 5, 19, June 2 and 16 in the community room.

For more information or to register, call (217) 283-5531, ext. 286.

Volunteer reception

CRIS Senior Services will hold a reception to thank and recognize volunteers from 2-4 p.m. Friday at the CRIS Senior Center, 309 N. Franklin, Danville. The event is part of National Volunteers Week, April 18-24.

For information on volunteer opportunities at CRIS, call (217) 442-2999.

Rabies clinics set

The Vermilion County Animal Regulation Department will sponsor rabies inoculation clinics around the county. Area veterinarians will administer rabies and distemper vaccinations. All dogs and cats must be vaccinated for rabies and wear a tag.

Vaccination costs vary but Vermilion County tags cost \$7 for cats and \$11 for dogs.

Clinics will be held:

April 24 - Rossville fire station, 8-10 a.m.

Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today. High 67. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 49. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 63, low 44.

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

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Hoopeston: 1 bdr. apt. Appliances included. No pets. Available May 1. \$275/mo., deposit, references. (217) 304-3477

HELP WANTED

HOOPESTON MIGRANT HEAD START is now accepting applications for the following positions at the sites specified: **Wellington:** teachers; **Ludlow:** education coordinator/site supervisor; teachers; disability coordinator (to share with Wellington site); **Gilman:** education coordinator/site supervisor; health/disability coordinator; family services coordinator; teachers.

Ed coordinator/site supervisor must have an associate degree in EC and willing to obtain bachelor's degree. Wage determined by experience and education. Health coordinator must have experience and/or medical background. Starting wage is \$8.67 Teachers must have a minimum of a CDA and committed to obtain an associate's degree within 2 years. Starting wage is \$11.49 Bilingual candidates are preferred but not required. Resumes and 3 letters of reference can be faxed to 815-984-4500 or emailed to hmhs98@cooketech.net. All applications or resumes must be postmarked by April 30th and sent to PO Box 136, Wellington, IL 60973. Please call 815-984-3706 with questions. EOE

HOUSES FOR RENT

Hoopeston: 2 bdr., 1 bath, basement, garage. Close to Maple School. \$400/mo., deposit, references. Available May 1 (217) 304-3477.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Kimball Superstar 2 organ. Has 2 keyboards. (217) 283-7627.

RUMMAGE SALES

1728 e. Rd. (Rt. 1 south of Rossville to 119. Turn east, go 2 miles, look for signs) Fri. & Sat., 7-2. Multi-family. Golf cart, riding mower. Treasures beyond your wildest dreams!

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