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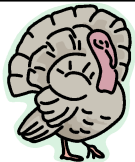


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48th annual

**Turkey Walk**

Saturday, Nov. 20

25 turkeys given away, 25 turkey raffles

Smoke River Band 8:30-12:30

\$3 single, \$5 couple

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## Hoopeston Area board approves 22 percent tax levy hike

Approval of a 90 cent increase in the Hoopeston Area education fund tax rate has resulted in a 22 percent increase in the district's 2004 tax levy.

At Thursday night's meeting, the board adopted an estimated tax levy of \$3,092,000.

After the meeting, Superintendent Mark Connolly called the levy a blind one, saying the district will not know how much it will actually receive in taxes until

the equalized assessed valuation is set. Last year's levy was approximately \$2.6 million and the district received about \$2.5 million. The amount actually received is called the extended taxes.

While the tax rate and levy are up, district officials have no plans to go on a spending spree. "Fiscal responsibility and fiscal conservatism are still very much the

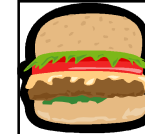


### Honoring those who served

Local veterans are recognized during a Veterans Day service Thursday at the McFerren Park Civic Center. The ceremony included speeches, music and a 21-gun salute.

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**Sunday, Nov. 21**

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See BOARD on other side

## Board continued from other side

order of the day," Conolly said.

The board also discussed the fate of vocational education in Vermilion County, especially the northern portion. Conolly said VOTEC, which provides vocational education for many districts - but not Hoopeston Area - may be defunct next year or may be scaled back, leading districts to scramble for vocational ed courses for their students.

Representatives from districts met with those from Danville Area Community College to discuss meeting those needs in the form of dual enrollment classes, Conolly said. Also, Rossville-Alvin currently offers some vocational classes and "we're very interested in maintaining those classes" and perhaps using the

## Obituaries

**LUSK** - Robert L. Lusk Sr., 93, of Rossville died Friday evening, Nov. 12, 2004 at Veterans Affairs Illiana Health Care System, Danville. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Wolfe Funeral Home, Rossville. Burial with military rites will be in Rossville Cemetery. Visitation will be 10-11 a.m. Tuesday at the funeral home with Masonic services at 10 a.m. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

**MARTIN** - Lois Martin, 80, of Hoopeston died at 3:45 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 13, 2004 at Provena United Samaritans medical Center, Danville. Arrangements are pending at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home.



## Police News



A **63-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported Wednesday that someone took two yard ornaments from her patio in the 500 block of East Young.

**David A. Robb**, 35, of 733 E. Main was arrested at 12:14 a.m. Friday in the south alley of the 700 block of East Main. He was charged with no valid driver's license and no valid registration and was released on notices to appear.

A **54-year-old** woman reported Friday that someone took an item and destroyed two pumpkins in her yard in the 700 block of East Young.

A **50-year-old** Hoopeston man reported Friday that someone took a blue 20" Schwinn bike from the

Rossville-Alvin High School building.

R-A voters approved deactivating the school and sending students to Hoopeston Area and Bismarck-Henning. The situation will leave the building empty. Boards from all three districts have looked at uses for the school.

Conolly said two issues face districts regarding vocational education: "cobbling something together for the students next year and a long-term solution."

The board also heard from Honeywell School principal Linda Sheppard about a new science curriculum being piloted at the school. The materials are pro-

## Briefly

### Multi Agency van schedule

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency transportation project is: Monday, Hoopeston/Rossville shuttle; Tuesday, Champaign (leave at 9 a.m.) Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville. To arrange a ride, call the Multi Agency at 283 - 5544.

Community center activities include: Monday-Wednesday, cards, noon; Thursday, men's coffee, 9:30 a.m., community potluck and men's euchre, noon; Friday, ladies cards, noon.

### Music Booster winners

This week's winners in the Hoopeston Area Music Booster calendar drawing are: Nov. 15, Lourdine Florek;

vide inquiry-based education where students learn by discovering. "The science textbook as we've known it is a thing of the past," she said. School officials must decide by Dec. 1 if they will purchase the new series.

In unrelated action, the board:

- canvassed election results which 1,608 were in favor and 1,220 against the education fund referendum. Seven ballots of service people have not yet been received.
- unanimously approved, at a disciplinary hearing prior to the meeting, the expulsion of a middle school student. The board also voted 6-1 to deny an

Nov. 16, Dale Wetli; Nov. 17, Jerry and Diane Jeffries; Nov. 18, Cheryl Pugh; Nov. 19, Dan and Penny Goodrum.

There will be a Music Booster meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the chorus room. Everyone is invited.

### Meetings

- Rossville-Alvin School Board, 7 p.m. Monday, high school library.
- Rossville Village Board, 7 p.m. Monday, village

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## Weather



Increasing clouds today. High 55. Tonight, chance of showers. Low 40. Tomorrow, chance of rain. High 50, low 39.

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