

**CADE'S HEATING & AIR**  
 Your Family's Comfort is Our Main Concern!  
**Rickie J. Cade**  
 Owner/Operator  
 616 E. Honeywell Ave., Hoopeston, IL  
 Phone: (217) 283-7762  
 Cell: (217) 304-3289  
 Heating, Air and Geothermal Systems



**Sheila Fix**  
 Outside Sales Consultant  
 Home: (217) 748-6283  
 Cell (217) 497-1753  
**Crown Ford Mercury**  
**Read Chevrolet Pontiac Buick**  
**Hoopeston Star Chrysler**




**Erie Insurance®**  
**Harris Agency, Inc.**  
 Auto • Home • Business • Life  
 (217) 283-5031  
 www.harrisagency.com




**THE SHARPENED EDGE**  
 KEEP 'EM SHARP

MOWER BLADES  
 HEDGE TRIMMERS  
 CHAIN SAWS  
 PLANER KNIVES  
 CARBIDE SAW BLADES  
 ROUTER BITS  
 SHAPER BITS  
 DRILL BITS  
 SCISSORS

MON. THRU. FRI.  
 6 PM - 8 PM  
 SAT. CALL  
 24 HR. DROP BOX

CHAD THOMAS  
 928 WEST PENN ST.  
 HOOPESTON, IL 60942  
 OWNER

PHONE  
 (217) 304-2718



Lourdine Florek  
 owner/publisher

**Just the Facts®**

Phone/Fax: (217) 283-9348  
 Email: publish@justthefacts.net

**Monday, September 25, 2006**  
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication  
**P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942** **www.justthefacts.net**

## HA seeks - but doesn't expect - increased 2006-07 tax levy

If the local equalized assessed valuation significantly rises, Hoopeston Area schools will be ready.

At Thursday night's regular meeting, Hoopeston Area School Board members unanimously approved a 9.07 percent increase over last year's tax levy.

The increase in the levy does not mean taxes are going up, Superintendent Mark Conolly said. In fact, while total property taxes to be levied for 2006 are \$3,090,000, Conolly expects the district will receive about what it did in 2005 - \$2,809,965. "It's the same amount we've proposed the last three years but we've never gotten it," he said.

Conolly explained that school levies are set in September while the equalized assessed valuation will not be known until spring. If the valuation goes up and the district did not request more than five percent more than

what it received last year, it would not get the additional money an increased valuation would bring.

"The chance of getting almost \$3 million in a levy is almost zero," Conolly said. "That's not going to happen. It hasn't happened since we've been doing this. We're just hedging our bets."

Most recent figures for the district EAV show it decreased from about \$65 million to just over \$60 million.

In unrelated business, the board learned the district's six-day enrollment figures are higher than last year's. A total of 1,322 students were enrolled on the sixth day of the school year, up from 1,283 last year. "It's encouraging to see those numbers up," said board president Steve Unger.

The increase bucks an ongoing trend of the district

**See HA on other side**

## Hoopeston Education Association shows solidarity at meeting

A sea of red flooded the high school library Thursday night during the regular Hoopeston Area School Board meeting.

Members of the Hoopeston Education Association, in red shirts promoting the local, state and federal education associations, and supporters of HEA members, showed solidarity Thursday in preparation for a meeting Monday between the union and board negotiating committees and a federal mediator.

After a budget hearing prior to the regular meeting, board president Steve Unger thanked the crowd for coming. "I will say this was the biggest turnout we've ever had for a budget hearing," he quipped.

Monday's meeting will be the second time both sides have met with a mediator. The first meeting was Aug. 22. Another meeting with the mediator may be held Wednesday if both sides do not come to an agreement

Monday.

No meetings with the mediator have been scheduled past Wednesday.

Stumbling blocks include economic and contract language issues, representatives from each side have said.

Teachers say educating students is still their top priority. "For the time being, the teachers are continuing to educate the children," HEA president Suzie Root said at the meeting.

Whether teachers will go on strike remains to be seen. Union leaders have not called for a strike vote. To go on strike, a majority of HEA members must vote to strike and 10 days notice must be given before a strike could start.

Teachers have been working without a contract since the start of school, as they did last year when a contract was not approved until September.

**HOOPESTON ROCK SERVICE**  
 DRIVE WAY & PARKING LOT GRADING  
 RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL  
 NEW DRIVEWAY INSTALLATION  
 ROCK & DIRT  
**DAN SHEEHAN**  
 217-304-5052  
 www.hoopestonrockngrading.com

**Looking for a bank that's customer friendly and on the go?**  
**That's Us!**  
**Community Bank**  
 Hoopeston, Illinois  
 Your hometown bank since 1913 Member FDIC  
 221 Bank St. (217) 283-7733Rts. 1&9 283-9723  
 221 E. Main, Wellington (815) 984-3130


(217) 765-4455  
 Tom & Becky  
 Also: DVRs, FREE  
 INSTALLS  
 UPGRADES MOVERS

**Satellite TV Guys**  
**dish NETWORK**  
 SEE OUR Better TV for all.  
 DISH NETWORK  
 HDTV DISPLAYED AT  
 SHERIDAN'S TV & APPLIANCE

**COME WORKOUT WITH US**  
 Monday & Thursday 5:15-6:15 p.m.  
**begins Monday, Oct. 2**  
 403 E. Main Street, Hoopeston

- Resistance training
- Step Aerobics (steps provided)
- Interval Training/Circuit Training
- ACE Certified

**Call 283-5715 to reserve your space!**





Police News



**Beth Ann Johnson**, 26, of 417 E. Honeywell, Apt. 312, was arrested after an incident at 11:41 p.m. Wednesday at Second Chance Saloon, 102 N. Market.

She was charged with battery under city ordinance on a complaint from a 27-year-old Indianapolis, Ind., woman.

Johnson was released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston court.

**Misty S. Johnston**, 39, of 801 Barlow St., Morgantown, Ky., was arrested at 5:33 p.m. Thursday, charged with cruelty of animal prohibited after she allegedly left an animal unattended in a vehicle. She was released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston court.

New Books at the Library



Non-Fiction

Room Full of Mirrors: a Biography of Jimi Hendrix by Charles R. Cross

The Last Coach: a Life of Paul “Bear” Bryant by Allen Barra  
From Where You Dream: the Process of Writing Fiction by Robert Olen Butler



Obituaries

**COLLATZ** - Arthur Gerhardt Collatz, 82, of Danville died Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2006 at Country Health Nursing Home, Gifford. Funeral service will be at noon Saturday at Lux Memorial Chapel, 1551 E. Grove, Rantoul. Burial will be in Mann’s Chapel Cemetery, Rossville. Visitation will be one hour before services Saturday at the funeral home. Mr. Collatz was father to Elizabeth Hoger of Rossville.

**CROW** - David W. Crow, 56, of Milford died at 5:22

p.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, 2006 at Iroquois Memorial Hospital, Watseka. Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford, with graveside rites by Milford American Legion. Visitation will be noon-2 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to American Heart Association or a charity of the donor’s choice.

HA continued from other side

losing students. In the past 12 years, Hoopeston Area has lost 401 students. In 2003-04, attendance was up 10 over 2002-03 but in 2005-06, district numbers were down by 60.

Numbers do not include 40 CARE students and 37 attending from the former Rossville-Alvin High School.

The increase means more state aid for the district, which receives roughly \$3,000 pre student in state funding.

In other business, the board:  
● Approved the 2007 budget with projected revenue of \$10,438,000 and expenses of \$10,475,000, leaving a negative balance of \$37,000. Each year, the board devises a “worst-case scenario budget,” hoping they will end the year better than projected. In 2005-06, the district had actual revenue of \$10,358,000 and actual expenses of \$9,956,000.

- Approved paying \$2,100 to Rossville-Alvin school district for the cost of utilities for holding ag classes at the former RA High School. Bismarck-Henning will pay an equal share, Conolly said.
- The districts signed a two-year agreement to hold the program at Rossville. This is the second year of the agreement.
- Approved resignations of Mitch Pruemer as seventh grade boys basketball coach and Josh Haley, eighth grade boys basketball coach.
- Learned the district still does not know the results of standardized tests measuring annual yearly progress or the Prairie State Assessment Exam.

Conolly said he has no idea when results will be available.

- Learned the district will have to hold a hearing on juniors and seniors requested PE waivers to take college-prep courses.

The state is cracking down on such waivers, Conolly said.

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 56. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 47. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 74, low 52.

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

**Donald C. Witty**, 39, of 208 N. Third St., was arrested after an incident at 10:02 p.m. Thursday at Deano’s Bar & Grill, 306 E. Main.

Witty was charged with assault on a complaint from a 38-year-old Hoopeston man. He was released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston court.

**An American flag** was found Friday on the sidewalk area of Market and Penn. The owner claimed it later on Friday.

**A 63-year-old** resident of the 400 block of South Second Ave. reported Friday that his vehicle had been damaged.

For all your beverage needs  
**Ted’s Home Beverage**  
101 W. Main  
Hoopeston  
(217) 283-7213

Classifieds

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Wanted: Someone to lease vendor building week of Vermilion County Fair, June 2007. 60’x120’. Will choose by Oct. 5. (217) 433-9056

HOUSES FOR RENT

709 W. Penn, Hoopeston. 3 BR, 1 bath, 2 car garage. No pets. \$550/mo. + deposit. (217) 283-5248

Rankin: 2 BR, new furnace, CA. Refrigerator, stove furnished. \$350/mo.+deposit. (217) 474-9909

HOUSES FOR SALE

By owner: 3 BR, 1 bath, large family room, walk on deck, attached garage w/ workshop. Newly remodeled including wiring. Secluded neighborhood. 821 N. 3rd St., Hoopeston. \$67,500 (217) 283-6372.

PETS

For sale: solid black Pomeranian male, year old, good with kids. Registered. (217) 772-1088

RUMMAGE SALES

207 N. Market, Hoopeston (in alley) Sept. 29-30, 7:30-2:30, Oct. 6-7, 7:30-2:30. Carpenter supplies, kitchenwares, men’s winter clothes & boots, bike, crafts & other items.

SERVICES

Pampered Pet Grooming. Lots of TLC. Call anytime for appointment. (217) 339-2340

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



Protect your family  
with advanced planning



**Anderson**  
Funeral Home

Serving your family for generations.

Hoopeston, IL