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Hoopeston Fire Department receives communication grant

For Hoopeston firefighters, the question "can you hear me now" will be answered with a resounding "yes."

The Hoopeston Fire Department was recently awarded a \$53,476 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant, said Alderman Brandon Hamilton. He made the announcement at Tuesday night's Hoopeston



Winter icing

Area trees were covered with tiny bits of ice caused by frozen fog Wednesday morning. Mother Nature's decorations made for beautiful trees but slick conditions as the area was under a frozen fog advisory until 10 a.m.

City Council meeting.

The grant includes money for one repeater, two base stations, three mobile radios, 19 portable radios, 16 pagers, six speaker/microphones for existing portable radios, an emergency decoder system for the main dispatch and a two-person intercom system.

The grant also covers fees for installing and programming equipment, installing the repeater on the water tower, licensing fees for a new narrow band frequency and repeater.

Another topic at the meeting was last week's snow-storm. Alderman Jerry Yonkers, street and alley superintendent, thanked all city departments that assisted his department in cleaning and removing snow. "They were really in a bind but everybody pitched in and helped out," he said.

Many residents thought city workers did a good job, too, based on cards and letters the city received about cleanup efforts, said Mayor Bill DeWitt.

Among those helping the department were water department employees, who were then assisted by two street and alley workers at a water main break Sunday by Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. "Those guys worked 18 hours in a row, then came out to help us," said Alderman Bill Crusinberry. "We really appreciated it."

In related news, Crusinberry said crews are working at Vermilion Iron, trying to head off a potential problem. The plant closed recently, and when it did, the heat was shut off. Water lines froze during recent cold weather. "When it does thaw out, it's going to be like an open four-inch main," he said.

Crusinberry also requested that local snow removal companies notify the city if they knock off water main covers. Some were knocked off during snow removal and the meters became frozen, he said.

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Or a pansy bush \$7.98

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

Fish Fry

5-8 p.m. Friday

American Legion

502 E. Penn, Hoopeston

Also serving pork chops.

Served with salad, baked potato & roll.

Carry-outs available 283-6312



VFW

428 W. Orange, Hoopeston
All-You-Can-Eat

Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, February 24

6 a.m.-12 p.m.

\$4/adults/\$2 children 6-12; under 6 free.

Tickets at the Post or from Men's Auxiliary members



**Thursday
is \$1 beer
night at
V.F.W.**

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B I N G O
every Thursday 7 p.m.
**Hoopeston
American Legion**
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No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 4:40 p.m. Monday at 819 E. McNeil.

Police said Tonna G. Hofer of Hoopeston, in a 2006 Buick, backed from a driveway into a parked 2005 Buick owned by Roger D. Toler, also of Hoopeston.

Melissa J. Carter, 19, of 812 E. Elm was arrested at 7:35 p.m. Monday at the police station. She was charged with assault on a complaint from an 18-year-old Hoopeston woman after an altercation with Carter on Feb. 11 in the 700 block of Scott Dr.

Carter was released on a notice to appear.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 8:59 p.m. Monday at 502 W. Elm.

Police News



Police said Jayme S. Gallagher of Hoopeston, in a 2006 Toyota, backed from her driveway into a parked 1994 Chevrolet owned by Cassandra Fink, also of Hoopeston.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 9:22 a.m. Tuesday at South Sixth Ave. and Rt. 9.

Police said Paul H. Carder, of Hoopeston, in a 1998 Oldsmobile, was northbound on Sixth Ave., when, according to a witness, he pulled in front of an eastbound 1998 Chrysler driven by Sandra L. Smith, also of Hoopeston.

Cherie L. Rude-Defrancisco, 46, of 216 S. Dixon, Rankin was arrested at 4:51 p.m. Tuesday at Knuth's,

1110 S. Third Ave., on a DuPage County warrant for driving under the influence.

She was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await extradition to DuPage County.

Martin C. Varela, 40, of 515 S. Fifth St., Hoopeston was arrested at 12:11 a.m. Wednesday in the 100 block of North Third St.

He was charged with driving while license revoked and was released on \$100 cash bond, with a court date set for Vermilion County Circuit Court.

An employee of Casey's General Store, 225 E. Orange, reported at 7:07 a.m. Wednesday that someone took \$37 in gas without paying for it.

Obituaries

JOHNSON - Florence B. Johnson, 90, of Rossville died at 3:15 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2007 at Provena United Samaritans Medical Center, Danville. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Rossville United Methodist Church. Burial will be in Sunset Memorial Park, Danville. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Thursday at Wolfe Funeral Home, Rossville. Memorials may be made to a charity of the

donor's choice.

REDDEN - Harold Redden, 81, of Rossville died at 12:42 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2007 at Asta Health Care, Paxton. Graveside service will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Rossville Cemetery, Rossville. Wolfe Funeral Home, Rossville, was in charge of arrangements.

VIGUS - Lillian Pearl Vigus, 81, of Fort Gratiot, Mich., formerly of Hoopeston died at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18, 2007 at Mercy Hospital, Port Huron,

Letters to the Editor



Complaint about city plowing

I realize that the city of Hoopeston had their hands full with the recent blizzard but my gripe is that we had a nice neighbor who snow-blown our drive out. To my dismay, with the wind, it was soon back to being in the same shape as before.

Then, when my husband, who is 74, scoops it out (the next day), the city comes along and blocks the driveway again. That really ticks. Can't they at least pull in and pull out what they plowed in so in case of an emergency we can get out or even the ambulance could get in the drive?

I know I'm not the only one who feels this. After all, we pay taxes for all of this. Seems to me they would be considerate for the people of Hoopeston

Jean Akers
Hoopeston

Court Dispositions



Jan. 18

Shannon L. Miller, Hoopeston, received 50 hours of public service work in lieu of \$330 fine; status hearing set for Feb. 15.

Aaron M. Linares, Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing; cases will be registered with Vermilion County Circuit Court.

Michelle D. Baker, Hoopeston, new status hearing Feb. 15.

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 42. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 23. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High 42, low 31.

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

Mich. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 2-8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to American Lung Association of Mid-Eastern Illinois, 110 W. Water St., P.O. Box 437, Pontiac IL 61764.

Classifieds

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