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Hank Hornbeck named Hoopeston Area superintendent

Hoopeston Area officials searched far and wide for a new superintendent and found what they were looking for right at home.

Hank Hornbeck, who has served as high/middle school principal for the past nine years, was named superintendent at the school board's regular meeting Thursday night.

Hornbeck, 45, will start his new duties July 1.

The district hired the Illinois Association of School Boards to search for a new superintendent following the death of former Superintendent Mark Conolly last December.

Twenty candidates applied for the position through the search, including Hornbeck. Five were interviewed by the board.

Quality

The board offered Hornbeck a one-year contract for \$87,500. With benefits, including retirement and health insurance, Hornbeck's package totals about \$100,000, said acting Superintendent Don Dean.

Hornbeck has spent 23 years in education, starting

Communications

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Rossville-Alvin, then going to Armstrong High School before being hired at Hoopeston Area 13 years ago as physical education teacher. He was then high school dean of students before being named high school principal.

In other personnel business, the board:

- approved re-hiring Ryan High, high school boys PE teacher; Nikki Pruemer, middle school PE teacher; and Kori Smith, middle school English.
- approved transfers of Kevin Root from high school PE to business education; and Sara Troxel from Honeywell EMH to Maple EMH.
- approved resignations from Janet Crouch, third grade teacher, who is retiring; Marilyn Longfellow, Maple custo-

dian; Josh Haley, high school assistant boys basketball coach; Carolyn Daniel, high school cheerleading; and John Hardcastle, high school head girls basketball.

The board also heard from Theta Lee about a state school funding proposition, "Invest in Excellence." The Illinois Education Association is trying to get the plan approved by legislators.

"Invest in Excellence" calls for providing adequate resources to all Pre-K-12 public schools, provide adequate resources to all public colleges and universities; provide a long-term solution for pension funding.

Illinois ranks 49th among states in the amount paid by the state per student, Lee said. Some districts spend \$28,000 per student, while other spend under \$5,000. Being on the low end of the scale "dooms poor communities to second class status," she said.

Funding for the program could come from Gov. Bla-

See HA on other side

Gardeners, plants are here!

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Police News



Two people were treated for minor injuries after an accident at 9:33 p.m. Wednesday.

Salissa L. Hoak and Erin R. Hoskins, both of Hoopeston, were taken to Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital by Hoopeston Ambulance personnel.

Police reported that Hoak, 18, in a 1992 Chevrolet, was southbound on Fourth St. and failed to yield at the intersection at Thompson, colliding with Hoskins' 1998 Pontiac Grand Am.

Hoak was ticketed for failure to yield at a stop/yield intersection.

A 30-year-old Hoopeston woman reported at 5:17 p.m. Friday that a burglary occurred in the 100 block of East Lincoln.

The report is still under investigation.

Obituaries

CROZIER - Bill W. Crozier, 63, of Newton, died at 8:21 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, 2007 at St. Memorial Hospital, Effingham. Funeral service was at 4 p.m. Saturday at Renner-Wikoff Chapel, Urbana. Burial was private. Visitation was 1-4 p.m. Saturday. Memorials are suggested to the Empty Tomb Fund.



CUSTER - Helen H. Custer, 90, of Rankin died at 12:12 p.m. Wednesday, April 18 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Knapp Funeral Home, Rankin. Burial will be in Rankin Union Cemetery. Visitation was 4-8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home. Memorials are sug-

gested to Rankin United Methodist Church.

TAYLOR - Wilma G. Taylor, 90, of Cissna Park died at 1:31 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, 2007 at Iroquois Memorial Hospital, Watseka. Graveside service was at noon Saturday at Potomac Cemetery. Visitation was 9-11 a.m. Saturday at Knapp Funeral Home, Cissna Park. Memorials are suggested to Cissna Park United Methodist Church or a charity of the donor's choice.

Briefly

Smoking cessation program offered

Hoopeston Regional Health Center is offering a sevenweek smoking cessation program starting Tuesday, May 1. Classes meet every Tuesday from 7-8 p.m. The program is free. The weekly classes meet in the Community Room of Hoopeston Regional Health Center. Call Mary Ann Piercy at (217) 283-5531 for more information.

Magazines, books for sale

Hoopeston Public Library has received donations

of back issues of National Geographic and Reader's Digest Magazines along with used books that are for

DACC Job Fair

Career Connections Job Fair 2007 will be held from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, May 2 in the DACC Mary Miller Gymnasium. The public is invited to meet area employers who are recruiting for part-and full-time positions. Participants should

Meetings

(217) 443-8597.

DACC Career Services.

Rossville Village Board, 6 p.m. Monday, village office. The special meeting is to amend the budget. A planning commission meeting will follow at 7 p.m.

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'Touchtone M for Murder' to be presented at Rossville-Alvin

ROSSVILLE—Rossville-Alvin Grade School will host "Touchtone M for Murder" at 6 p.m. Friday. The presentation will be held in the Rossville-Alvin High School gym.

Advance tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for people 18 and younger and may be purchased by calling (217) 304-8084. At the door, tickets will be \$6 for adults and \$4 for people 18 and younger.

The Rossville-Alvin PTO will host a pizza dinner before the show, at 5 p.m., in the high school cafeteria. Cost is \$3 in advance by calling the above number or any PTO member and \$4 at the door.

HA continued from other side

gojevich's Gross Receipts Tax or the Meeks Bill in the Senate, a one percent across-the-board tax with revenues going to education.

Lee urged those attending the board meeting to call, write or e-mail legislators in support of the plan and to attend a rally to be held May 2 in Springfield.

In other business, the board:

Approved membership in the IESA and IHSA.

- Approved hiring Russ Leigh for the annual audit at a cost not to exceed \$5,100.
- Welcomed new board members Mark Schaumburg and Chris Elliott, who attended. The two, plus incumbent Mark Wagoner, will be seated at a special meeting at 6 p.m. May 10.
- Heard from principals about special year-end activities at their respective schools.

Lunch Menus



Rossville-Alvin Grade School

MONDAY: Chicken taco, corn, pears, pretzel/cheese.

TUESDAY: Pizza Hut, salad, croutons, pineapple.

WEDNESDAY: Ham & cheese, celery sticks, peanut butter, apple slices, no bake cookie.

THURSDAY: Pork roast, mashed potatoes, peas & carrots, peaches, bread/butter.

FRIDAY: Hotdog, tri-tater, Jello/fruit, chocolate chip cookie.

CRIS/SAMS meals

MONDAY: Hamburger/bun, potato tots, seasoned green beans, bananas.

TUESDAY: Chicken parmesan, peas & carrots, creamed corn, oranges, sugar cookie, white bread.

WEDNESDAY: Country fried steak/gravy, whipped potatoes, Italian mixed vegetables, white bread, apple-

THURSDAY: Breaded fish, rosemary roasted potatoes, Italian vegetables, apple juice, wheat bread.

FRIDAY: Lasagna casserole, glazed carrots, Caesar salad, ambrosia, Italian bread.

All meals served with milk.

Weather



Breezy today. High 73. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 51. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High 68, low 54.

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

Ciels' Night Out Saturday, April 28 Prizes, Games DJ 9-1 BJ's Pump

dress for an interview and bring copies of their resume.

For more information, or to schedule a booth, call





Classifieds

HELP WANTED

City of Hoopeston will accept applications for part time seasonal help at the cemetery. Applications may be picked up at City Hall. Return completed apps to City Hall by 4 pm. Thursday, April 26. EOE

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