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Letters to the Editor

See one, play one

Many times when youth exhibit negative traits, their parents seem dumbfounded and surprised, immediately looking for surrounding influences that have affected their children, and overlooking the fact that an acorn falls close to the tree. Why do we fail to understand that our children are always trying to emulate what they see going on as they grow up?

It does not matter whether it is alcohol, drugs, physical

or psychological abuse, all affect the wellbeing of our youth. This is permanently implanted in our children's brains.

Some parents expect our school system to teach our children right and wrong. A school system cannot correct a child's negative brain implants. They are there to teach academics. The home is the place to teach right and wrong; it is the parents' responsibility.

If the parent grew up in a negative environment, then they have to break the mold and not pass this negativism down to their children. This may be hard to do, but if they really love their children, they will do it. If not, then they are selfish.

A child should have many positive experiences while he or she grows up because "see one, play one."

Tom Evans
Hoopeston



Photo contributed

Tami Goin, Hoopeston Main Street Promotions chairwoman, presents Charlene Cessna, of Henning, with a brand new Nintendo Wii game. The Promotions Committee sold tickets on the game during the National Sweetcorn Festival, with ticket prices ranging from one cent to \$5.

Thoughts on scheduled park closings

Gov. Blagojevich is closing 13 state historic sites and 11 state parks. The Governor has gotten our attention.

While the rest of the Lincoln states are going gang busters for the 200 anniversary of his birth, in Illinois, "the Land of Lincoln," our Gov has not only elected to cut the hours at the sites connected to him, but is also closing four Lincoln related sites. Happy Birthday Abe! Come to Illinois-the "Land of the Closed Lincoln sites." Looking for Lincoln? That should get changed to Looking for Closed Lincoln sites.

Go green Illinois! One of the best examples of reclaiming land over develop by strip mining and turning it into one of the best scenic and recreation state parks in East Central Illinois is Kickapoo State Park. One of its key features is the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River-the only National Scenic Riverway in Illinois. How does

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Letters continued from other side

the Gov honor this early example of recreational redevelopment and recognize one of the chief visitor attractions in economically depressed Vermilion County? He shuts it down. I guess what the Gov is saying here that since most of our businesses are going to Indiana anyway, we in Vermilion County can just go spend our tax dollars at Indiana's Turkey Run State Park.

I will admit when it comes to Kickapoo State Park I am taking this closing issue personally. This is one of the best state parks in Illinois, and it is in my home county. Vermilion County is going through some tough times, and we need every plus we can get. The Gov is like one of those old strip mining shovels that used to use where Kickapoo is today-he just scoop up a big chunk of our county and one of the things that really helps our local economy. So sign me up for a "Save Kickapoo Park" t-shirt and I will be happy to go to Springfield and sit outside the Gov's office. Then again, I guess if we want him to notice, we

will have to go to Chicago.

Illinois has had three cities that have served as our state capital. The Gov is closing two of these sites that recognize these important links to the political growth of Illinois; Kaskaskia and the old statehouse at Vandalia, while at the same time cutting the hours at the Old Statehouse in Springfield. I guess he figures why not-Chicago is the real state capital anyway.

Apparently, the Gov does not like the French. With a sweep of his pen he has closed every site in the old American Bottoms of the French Colonial section of Illinois. After October 1, there will be no state site honoring the rich French Colonial period of Illinois history. The Gov can also save more money by taking out the French flag from any flags over Illinois displays. These same sites are part of Illinois' connection to the American Revolution. Apparently that part of Illinois history is just as unimportant as the French development of Illi-

nois.

Apparently, Carl Sandburg, who, when I was growing up, was hailed as one of the great writers this state produced, is now out of date. The Gov is shuttering his birthplace. How ironic: as we gear up to celebrate all things Lincoln the Gov is shutting down the birth place of one of his greatest biographers.

Has Gov. Blagojevich ever read any of the works of Carl Sandburg? I mean read them, not listened to them on tape as he does his daily commute from Chicago to Springfield. Has the Gov ever actually visited any of the sites he just padlocked? Has he ever read a book on Illinois history? Does he even know that Illinois was once part of France?

It is true, these are hard economic times. So what does the Gov. do? He elects to close down historic sites and parks in areas where these institutions are vital to local cultural heritage tourism. One will notice that none of

these sites benefit dear old Chicago.

I guess we in the history community should not complain. We can get down on our knees and give thanks that the Lincoln Home is run by the National Park Service. We had better start moving on getting Cahokia Mounds, our only World Heritage Site in Illinois, over to the NPS.

We need to save OUR Kickapoo State Park, and the other Illinois state parks and historic sites that our Governor has condemned to closure. Support Illinois Senate Bills 790 & 1103 and House Bill 6350.

Kevin R. Young
Rossville

Classifieds

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Full time cook and servers needed at L&M Lunch. Apply in person, 307 E. Main, Hoopeston. No phone calls, please

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Lost: 3 year old, small grayish female cat wearing a blue flea collar. Missing from 600 block of East Main. If found, please call 283-9756

\$50 reward for return of ring lost at Sweet Corn Festival on Saturday 8/30. Men's gold class style ring. Name engraved on inside. Please call 748-6227.

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Court Dispositions



August 7

Apolinar Solis Jr., Hoopeston, new status date Sept. 18.
William E. Seiders, Hoopeston, new status date Sept. 4.
John E. Hensly Jr., Hoopeston, new status date Oct. 2.
Anthony J. Uppinghouse, Hoopeston, given 43 hours' community service work in lieu of \$330 fine; status hearing Oct. 2.
Barbara Horn, Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing; case to be filed with Vermilion County Circuit

Court.

Heather M. Cavanaugh, Paxton, failed to appear at sentencing, fined \$230; status hearing Nov. 6.
Douglas Land Jr., Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing; case to be filed with Vermilion County Circuit Court.
Encarnacion T. Morales, Hoopeston, failed to appear at sentencing, fined \$280; status hearing Oct. 16.
Apolinar Solis Jr., Hoopeston, default withdrawn,

trial on two cases set for Sept. 18.

Cyndi R. Houston, Hoopeston, general nuisance charge dismissed by city attorney.
Amanda LaBounty, Hoopeston, restraint of dogs by owner or keeper charge dismissed by city attorney.
Gerald D. Minick, Hoopeston, found guilty by a directed finding of liability for restraint of dogs by owner or keeper, fined \$180; status date Nov. 6.

Police News



Jason W. Irvin, 35, of East Lynn, was arrested at 9:45 p.m. Sunday in the 100 block of North Market.

Wanted on a Benton County, Ind., no-bond warrant for failure to appear on non-support of a child, he was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await extradition.

Weather



Sunny today. High 70. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 46. Tomorrow, sunny. High 75, low 52.
For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, **(217) 283-6221**.

Obituaries

LITTLE - Lester Leon Little, 93, of Watseka, formerly of Hoopeston, died at 3:50 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, 2008 at Iroquois Memorial Hospital, Watseka. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Visitation will be 6-8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.
LOCKHART - Laura Lockhart, 88, of Sheldon, formerly of Wellington, died at 8:15 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, 2008 at Sheldon Health Care. Graveside funeral service was at 2 p.m. Monday at Floral Hill

Cemetery
SCHWARTZ - Robert E. Schwartz, 89, of Hoopeston, died at 4:07 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, 2008 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery with military rites by Hoopeston American Legion and VFW posts. Visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home with Masonic rites at 7 p.m. by Hoopeston Masonic Lodge. Memorials are suggested to Hoopeston United Methodist Church, 403 E. Main St., Hoopeston IL 60942.