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Trustees hear from ambulance officials about intercepts

ROSSVILLE—Criticism of the local ambulance service resulted in a presentation by service officials at Monday's village board meeting.

JoAnne Mahorney, ambulance service coordinator, and Dennis Price, president of the ambulance service board, talked about intercepts with other ambulance services.

An intercept occurs when Rossville Ambulance Service calls another service, such as Hoopeston or Medix in Danville, to meet the Rossville ambulance to provide more advanced care.

Mahorney explained that, in the case of an intercept with Hoopeston, Rossville's ambulance will travel toward Hoopeston and will stop when it meets Hoopeston's ambulance. A Hoopeston paramedic will then board the Rossville ambulance and provide more intensive treatment to a patient while en route to Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital.

In the case of an intercept with Medix of Danville, she said, the ambulance must travel to the Walmart parking lot.

Price said some Rossville residents have criticized the service, saying most ambulance calls become intercepts.

According to statistics provided by Mahorney, that claim is untrue. In November 2008, of 13 calls, seven were intercepts with Hoopeston's Advanced Life Saving (ALS) ambulance.

In December, six of 16 total calls were intercepts with



Joanne Mahorney, Rossville Ambulance Service coordinator, and Dennis Price, Ambulance board president, discuss the ambulance service at Monday's Rossville Village Board meeting.

Hoopeston and one intercept with Medix was completed. A second requested intercept was not because an intercepting ambulance was not available.

In January, three intercepts were completed with Hoopeston. There were seven calls total that month.

Rossville emergency medical technicians (EMT) decide whether to request an intercept, Price said. "EMTs have the life of the patient first and foremost in their minds," he said.

Mahorney added, "It's a judgment call; we never try to steer anybody the wrong way."

Aside from judgment, Rossville EMTs use a Provena Covenant Medical Center criteria sheet for Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulances, such as Rossville's. The sheet lists circumstances for possible intercepts. Criteria include active chest pain, active seizures, cardiac

or respiratory arrest, drowning, obstetrical emergencies, unconsciousness and others.

Intercepts cost \$100 but that cost is not paid by the patient. Mahorney said Rossville Ambulance Service pays the fee from its approximate \$300 fee for service from Rossville to Hoopeston.

In other business, the board unanimously approved purchasing 10 cast iron street lights similar to existing ones, for \$4,800. The lights are available from a Georgetown resident.

See TRUSTEES on other side

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Artistic Repertory Theatre sets auditions Sunday youth production, for 'Guys & Dolls Jr.'

Artistic Repertory Theatre will hold auditions for "Guys & Dolls Jr.," on Sunday, March 22 at the Academy for the Performing Arts, 203 E. Main, Hoopeston.

Sign in will begin at 2:30 p.m.; auditions will begin at 3 p.m.

The cast will be comprised of people ages five to 18. Eleven male and three female principals plus a chorus of males and females for dancers, mission band members

and gangsters are needed. Those under 16 must have a parent present at the audition to complete the audition form.

Those who audition are asked to prepare 32 bars of a song of their choice and to bring sheet music. An accompanist will be provided. Participants should bring shoes they can dance in.

Performances will be July 24-26 at the McFerren Park Civic Center. Rehearsals will be afternoons and evenings, beginning May 1, at The Academy.

Those who audition should bring all family/school/summer camp/sports calendars and conflict dates to the

audition. All conflicts must be noted on the audition form.

For more information, call Kathleen Margevich, (217) 283-5216.

Four to be inducted into city Bowling Hall of Fame

New members will be inducted in the Hoopeston Bowling Association Hall of Fame.

The Association has chosen Barb Wood and Donald Gaffney for merit. Ann Martin and Robert Merritt will be honored in memoriam, enshrined into a group of bowlers who dedicated their lives to make bowling something for everyone to enjoy.

The induction and Association's annual banquet will be held Saturday, March 21, at Fast Lanes. Tickets are available there. For more information, call (217) 283-6505.

Trustees continued from other side

Mayor Terry Prillaman said new lights would cost almost \$1,500 each.

"We have an opportunity," Prillaman said. "It doesn't come along very often. It's too good a deal to pass up."

In other business, trustees will seek bids to dredge a pond near Park Place. "Many of us think that's a diamond in the rough," Prillaman said.

Plans for the pond include dredging it to make it deeper and more able to support fish, then allowing residents to fish there. Officials would also like to see the area landscaped and a walking path put in. "Maybe for a little dollars, we can turn it into an attraction for Rossville," he said.

Board members will look at the possibility of renting a dredging machine and having city employees do the work.

In unrelated business, the board:

- Approved an annual salary ordinance with a three

Police News



A **24-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported at 3:37 p.m. Monday that someone took her son's Huffy bicycle from her porch in the 700 block of East Main.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 1:45 p.m. Monday in a parking lot at 102 N. First Ave. Police said Larry Dunavan, of Rossville, in a 2001 Dodge, struck a parked Freightliner semi driven by David Smith of Knoxville, Tenn.

percent across-the-board increase for employees.

- Will post the budget ordinance for 30 days and will vote on it next month. Prillaman called the budget "a tough one this year."
- Approved \$50 donations to the Bismarck-Henning and Hoopeston Area post prom committees.
- Approved a streetlight for East Goodwine.
- Approved parade resolutions for July 4 and the village sesquicentennial in August.
- Approved continued membership in Keep Vermilion County Beautiful for \$100.

Weather



Chance of showers today. High 52. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 35. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 50, low 32.

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

Court Dispositions



February 19

Daniel K. Daniels, Hoopeston, failed to appear at sentencing for trespassing, fined \$280; status hearing April 16.

Rocky A. Daniels, Hoopeston, failed to appear at sentencing for theft, fined \$280; status hearing April 16.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

FOR RENT: Hoopeston-Newer Adult complex. 2 bedroom 1 bath. Full basement. Washing machine, refrigerator, stove. Walk to stores. Quiet surroundings. Immediate occupancy. \$475 + deposit, references required. No pets. 217-260-2546.

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce is currently seeking applications for AmeriCorps VISTA Program Coordinator. Review Job description and apply online at www.hoopestonchamber.com under employment opportunities. Applicants MUST apply online by March 30, 2009. Questions? Call 217-283-7873 / 217-304-6272.

HOUSES FOR RENT

East Orange, Hoopeston. 2 BR, garage. No pets. \$475/mo + security deposit. (217) 304-3477

FOR RENT: East Young, 4 bedroom, 1 bath, newly remodeled, large yard, new appliances. \$525 per month + security deposit. For application call 217-283-5475 leave message.

3 BR, 1 bath, garage. Available immediately. \$450/mo. (217) 304-2145

2 bedroom house for rent in on McNeil. Stove and Fridge furnished, no pets. \$425 per month. Deposit and References required. Call 217-304-6547 for application.

2 bedroom house for rent in Rossville. Very nice, new paint, high efficiency furnace, great location. No pets, No Smoking. \$450 per month. Deposit and References required. Call 217-304-6547 for application.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

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