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Monday, August 23, 2010

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

Phone/Fax (217) 283-9348

Louridine Florek, owner

www.justthefacts.net

Worse case scenario budget paints bleak picture for district

If the worst happens, Hoopeston Area schools could see a deficit of more than \$1 million.

At Thursday's regular meeting, the board unanimously approved a tentative budget that assumes increased expenses and decreased income that could leave the district short \$1.037 million.

Hoopeston Area ended the 2010 fiscal year with a \$476,000 surplus. The worst case scenario budget for 2011 plans for more than \$1 million less in income and \$273,000 more in expenses.

See BUDGET on other side



Happy to be back

Six-year-old Brent Golladay, a special needs student at Maple, gives cheerful greetings as he's assisted by aide Dawn Samet on Friday, the first day Hoopeston Area schools were in session for the 2010-11 year.

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Carle's physicians have privileges to practice at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital and are not employees or agents of the HCMH.



Police News



Zachary T. Garman, 18, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 1:03 a.m. Thursday in the 900 block of West Honeywell. He was charged with purchase or acceptance of liquor by persons under 21 and was released on a notice to appear.

A **25-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported at 11:25 p.m. Thursday that someone broke several windows at her home in the 800 block of East Orange.

A **purple Roadmaster** Mt. Climber bicycle was found at 9:15 a.m. Thursday at Parkview court. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

Two people were arrested Thursday in connection with several area burglaries.

Jeffrey A. Davis, 41, and Suzie M. Davis, 28, both of Hoopeston, were arrested at 9 a.m. Thursday at the police station. They were charged in connection with burglaries of garages at McFerren Park on July 28; August 6 in the

700 block of South Fifth Street; August 8 at McFerren Park; August 12 in the 700 block of East Lincoln, August 13 in the 800 block of South Third Street; and a vehicle that was burglarized August 17.

The two were taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

A **17-year-old** Hoopeston girl was arrested at 4:45 p.m. Thursday at the police station in a recent incident of spray painting at Parkview Court. She was charged with criminal damage to property and released to a parent on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

William Johnson, 19, of Hoopeston, was arrested after an incident at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at CVS, 805 S. Dixie Highway. He was charged with retail theft after an employee alleged he took a bottle of alcohol from the store without paying for it.

Johnson was later located, charged with retail theft and released on \$100 bond.

Jorge Casillas, 40, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 11:24 p.m. Thursday on a Will County warrant for failure to appear/driving under the influence. He was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await extradition to Will County.

A **57-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported at 5:49 a.m. Friday that someone damaged her vehicle in the 400 block of North Ninth Avenue.

A **79-year-old** Hoopeston man reported at 2:22 p.m. Saturday that someone damaged his vehicle while it was parked in the 800 block of South Third Street.

Jerry L. Lindsey, 40, of Hoopeston, was arrested after he was located on Vermilion County Housing Authority property at 6:17 p.m. Saturday. Lindsey has been banned from all VCHA properties, police said.

Lunch Menus



Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Chicken nuggets, corn, applesauce, cookie

TUESDAY: Pepperoni pizza, salad, pears

WEDNESDAY: BBQ rib/bun, tater tots, peaches

THURSDAY: Cheese quesadilla, salad, chips & salsa, pineapple

FRIDAY: Mini corndog, baked beans, mixed fruit

Hoopeston Area Middle/High schools

MONDAY: Chicken nuggets or ham & cheese, corn, applesauce, cookie

TUESDAY: Taco max snax or beefy fiestada, salad, chips & salsa, peaches

WEDNESDAY: Spaghetti or ravioli, max stick, salad, pears

THURSDAY: BBQ rib/bun or Hot Pocket, California blend/cheese, pineapple, cake

FRIDAY: Pepperoni pizza or fish sandwich, salad, mixed fruit

All meals include milk.

Weather



Sunny today. High 86. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 62. Tomorrow, sunny. High 88, low 59.

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

Lindsey was released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

Correction

It was incorrectly reported that James F. Shoulders, 36, of Hoopeston, was arrested August 18. The report should have read James R. Shoulders, 36, of Hoopeston, was arrested.

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AUCTIONS

Auction-Rossville American Legion. Monday, Aug. 23. 5:30 p.m. Antiques, collectibles, household. You can turn your items into cash at this auction! For pics, go to www.jonwitvoetauctioneer.com. 1-217-304-0442

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Migrant Head Start is seeking applications for bus drivers. Starting wage is \$12.37. Send resume to P.O. Box 136, Wellington IL 60973 or fax to (815) 984-4500. Call the office at (815) 984-3706 for any questions. Positions are open until filled. EOE

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Hoopeston: 904 W. Main. 2 story, 3 BR, fenced yard. \$550/mo. References, no pets. For application call (509) 432-3900.

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Budget continued from other side

State officials recommended that districts figure state aid, the amount the state pays per student, at 90 percent of what was received last year, said Superintendent Hank Hornbeck. That means about \$950,000 less for the district.

Also, categoricals - programs mandated by and at least somewhat paid for by the state - will also see a drop in state payments.

For example, Hornbeck said, transportation costs are supposed to be repaid at 70 percent but Gov. Pat Quinn has said those costs will be reimbursed at only 57 percent.

Meanwhile, the state still has not paid about \$500,000 to Hoopeston Area. "This is not a school district problem," Hornbeck told the board. "It's a state of Illinois problem. The state is not giving us the money we need."

President Barack Obama has promised \$10 billion for education. Of that, more than \$400 million is set to come to Illinois. "The question is how much of that will come to Hoopeston and how are we going to get it," Hornbeck said. "We're not holding our breath that we're going to see this money right away."

The good news is that the district has savings it can use to offset a deficit, but Hornbeck urged administrators to "get the things you need, not the things you want" in an effort to curb costs.

School funding comes from three sources: local prop-

erty taxes, state aid and federal grants.

In unrelated business, the district could end up with all legal rights to the Cornjerker.

Curt Ellis, who said he took a drawing on a napkin made by Coach Dick Hobbs and put it in camera-ready form, said that act gives him some legal rights over the Jerky. At Thursday's meeting, Ellis said he was willing to sign "work for hire" agreements over to the district and was to meet with Hornbeck on Friday to review and sign the documents.

The "no strings attached" signing would give Hoopeston Area clear sailing to get federal copyright protection of all things Cornjerker, Ellis said.

Hornbeck said district officials will not sign the documents until they are reviewed by an attorney.

Neither side would release the documents for review before they are signed by district officials.

In related business, Sue Comstock, co-founder of Be A Part of It, said group members met Wednesday evening the Hoopeston Area Sports Boosters to discuss a billboard in Hoopeston. Be A Part of It will submit three designs to the Boosters for their review and one of the three will be submitted to the school board for its approval.

None will feature "Cornjerker Nation" Comstock said.