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Health center receives funding for new nursing home

Colleen Callahan, state director for USDA Rural Development, announced USDA's \$6 million investment in Hoopeston Regional Health Center's new nursing home.

The low-cost loan will help the Health Center construct the new 29,000-square-foot facility at the intersection of Illinois Route 1 and McCracken Ave. This will replace its existing nursing home built in 1972.

"By helping rural communities preserve and improve their essential services, USDA can help them maintain and grow their local economies," Callahan said. "When we safeguard the infrastructure in a rural area, we make

it a better place to earn a living, run a business and raise a family."

The Hoopeston Regional Health Center will use the loan to build a new facility that will provide top-quality technology, equipment, services and amenities. The 24-hour skilled nursing home will include 75 beds, two lounges, a secured patio, dining area, recreation room and room for physical, speech and occupation therapies.

The new nursing home is part of the hospital's ongoing plan to improve healthcare services for the more than 16,000 residents in its service area. In the last 15 years, the hospital has opened Country Terrace, a 30-unit senior living community; built the Charlotte Anne Russell Clinic, a medical practice building; made numerous renovations at the hospital; and opened a geriatric psych clinic. The Health Center provides essential health care service for eight towns and surrounding areas and employs more than 230 people.

"Hoopeston Regional Health Center is dedicated to being the area's community health center," said Harry Brockus, CEO. "We see the construction of this new nursing home facility as another way we can invest in our community. We believe in the value of healthcare dollars staying local and using those dollars to reinvest back into the area."

The project is being funded through Rural Development's Community Facilities program. The funding is available to public entities and non-profit organizations to build or improve essential community facilities and purchase equipment for public use in rural areas. These funds can be used to support projects such as health and child care centers, hospitals, medical clinics, assisted-living facilities, fire and rescue stations, police stations, libraries, community centers, public buildings and transportation.

See FUNDING on other side

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Hoopeston Regional Health Center
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Police News



Bradly H. Calloway, 24, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 12:39 a.m. Friday on a complaint from a 24-year-old Hoopeston woman after he allegedly caused a disturbance in the 800 block of East Elm. He was charged with possession of a controlled substance and threatening a public official and was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 10:08 a.m. Friday at Routes 1 and 9.

Police said Terry Misner, of Rossville, was westbound, turning southbound on Rt. 1 when his 2008

Dodge struck an eastbound 2004 Pontiac driven by Holly Fritz of Kentland, Ind.

Caden Peterson, 18, of Hoopeston and an unidentified passenger were taken to Hoopeston Community

Briefly

Music Booster meeting

Hoopeston Area Music Boosters will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8, in the middle school chorus room.

Obituaries

HODGE - Ethel Alberta Hodge, 99, of Tullahoma, Tenn., formerly of Hoopeston, died Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2011, at Life Care Center Nursing Home, Tullahoma. Cremation rites were accorded by Tullahoma Funeral Home. Burial will be at a later date in Floral Hill Cemetery. Arrangements were by Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

RETHELFORD - Harry W. Rethelford, 80, of Memphis, Tenn., formerly of Hoopeston, died January 31, 2011, at Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis. Celebra-

Funding continued from other side

Rural Development provides financing and technical assistance to foster growth in housing, business development, as well as essential community and technology infrastructure. More information on USDA Rural Development programs is available on the web at www.rurdev.usda.gov/il. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

tion of Life service will be at noon Wednesday at Wolfe Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Visitation will be one hour before service at the funeral home. Cremation rites will be accorded.

Lunch Menus



Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Chicken nuggets, corn, applesauce, cookie

TUESDAY: Pizza rolls, salad, pears

WEDNESDAY: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, peaches, bread, butter

THURSDAY: Chicken taco, salad, pineapple, chips & salsa

FRIDAY: Cheeseburger, fries, pineapple

Hoopeston Area Middle/High schools

MONDAY: Chicken bacon wrap or ham & cheese, lettuce, applesauce, cookie

TUESDAY: Mini corn dog or cheeseburger, fries, peaches

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

THURSDAY: Pizza Hut, salad, pineapple

FRIDAY: Grilled cheese or fish sandwich, chicken noodle soup, mixed fruit, juice

All meals include milk.

Weather



Cloudy today. High 25. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 6. Tomorrow, cold. High 8, low -1.

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

Memorial Hospital following an accident at 12:43 p.m. Friday at West Elm and First Avenue.

Police said Peterson, in a 1994 Dodge, was westbound, failed to yield at an unmarked intersection and hit a 2000 Ford driven by Christina Clayburn, of Hoopeston.

Peterson was ticketed for failure to yield to avoid an accident.

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Classifieds

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