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Monday, March 25, 2013

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

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Lourdine Florek, owner

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Propane will make wheels on a bus go 'round and 'round

Hoopeston Area is one of the first school districts in the state to use propane buses.

The district school board on Thursday approved spending \$187,990 on two propane-powered buses from Central States.

At almost \$94,000 each, the buses are more expensive than their diesel counterparts, with a bid price of \$85,700. However, the district was awarded a \$50,000 federal grant against the purchase price and expects state rebates in the form of 50 cent per gallon decrease on fuel and a \$4,000 grant from the state's green energy program.

All told, Hoopeston Area officials expect \$90,000 in savings over the projected 10-year life of the buses, said board member Lisa Leigh.

Nationwide, 30 schools were selected for the federal grant program. Hoopeston Area was one of two Illinois districts selected.

In other business, the board approved spending \$103,000 for asbestos abatement in the Maple School basement. Of the total, \$67,500 will be paid to Valor Technologies for removal and \$35,500 to IDEAL Environmental Engineering for professional engineering

See BUS on other side

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Police News



Kayla Lamar, 26, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 9:59 p.m. Thursday in the 500 block of South Second Ave. She was charged with domestic battery on a complaint from a 33-year-old Hoopeston man who alleged Lamar hit him.

She was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

Joshua A. Pundt, 33, of Danville, was arrested after an incident at 6:05 a.m. Friday in the Hoopeston Hospi-

tal parking lot. He was charged with domestic battery and interference with reporting domestic violence and also a Department of Corrections warrant for violation of parole because of the incident, on a complaint from a 22-year-old Hoopeston woman.

He was taken to the Public Safety Building to await arraignment.

Anthony J. Chandler, 31, of Hoopeston, was arrested after an incident at 5:19 p.m. Friday in the 100 block of

Bus continued from other side

services. Both are based Bolingbrook.

In unrelated action, the board:

- Approved the 2013-14 and 2014-15 common school calendars.
- Approved the tri-party agreement with Rossville-Alvin and Bismarck-Henning. The one-year agreement is the same as the previous one, said Supt. Hank Hornbeck.
- Approved City of Hoopeston using the Cornjerker image on the city water tower.

• Learned from Hornbeck that Golden Rule winners are board member Chris Elliott; Esther Bundy, Maple dean of students; bus driver Becky Johnson; teacher Barb Park; and secretary Jo Alt. The Golden Rule dinner will be April 23 at Bismarck.

• Approved honorably dismissing Ashley Dobkins, second grade teacher; Matthew Reasor, first grade teacher; Lucy Overlander, Maple personal aide; and Jillian Caughron, third grade teacher.

• Approved resignations of Mayra Paredes, middle school personal aide, effective March 8 and Ryan Newby, maple PE teacher, assistant football and assistant varsity baseball coach; and Deidre Thyer, second grade teacher.

• Approved intent-to-retain letters from Debra Lankford, high school business and middle school computer teacher; and Barbara Park, high/middle school education teacher/special education coordinator, at the end of the school year.

• Approved transferring Ashley Ramsey from first grade teacher to kindergarten teacher for the 2013-14 year; hiring Cayla Knight as a personal aide at the middle school for the rest of the year; and approved continued employment for Tim Hillard, Mark Eighner, Rodney Comstock and Curt Spaur for the 2013-14 year.

Weather



Winter storm warning until 7 a.m. Monday. Chance of snow today. High 35. Tonight, chance of flurries. Low 24. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 37, low 25.

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

East Lincoln. He was charged with battery on a complaint from a 36-year-old Hoopeston man. Chandler was released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

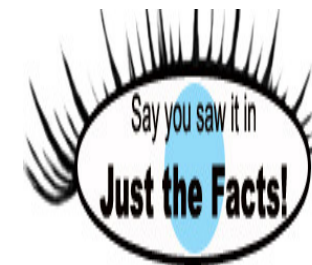
Westley E. Rush, 20, of Hoopeston, surrendered himself to police at 8:30 p.m. Friday, on two counts of participating in meth manufacturing; one count of meth manufacturing material; two counts of meth possession and three counts of anhydrous possession.

He was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await a bond hearing.

Charlotte M. Akins, 37, of Hoopeston, turned herself in to police at 4:50 p.m. Saturday. Wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear/disorderly conduct, she was released on \$499 bond.

Obituaries

HEDGEcock - Byron "Barney" Hedgecock, 83, of Hoopeston, died at 5 a.m. Saturday, March 23, 2013, at Heritage Health Therapy and Senior Care, Hoopeston. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home in Hoopeston.



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