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Community Awards Banquet
Who's going to win?

 DSA  Officer of the Year  Business of the Year

6 p.m. Saturday, January 31
Hoopeston American Legion
 502 E. Penn St.

Keynote Speaker
Linda Bolton of Vermilion Advantage

Awards presented by:

- Hoopeston Jaycees
- Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce
- Save the Lorraine Foundation
- The Chronicle

Dinner Tickets: \$12-includes meal
 Chicken Parmesan, Potato, Broccoli Casserole, Salad, Garlic Bread, & Dessert

Door entry Ticket- \$5 - no dinner
 Dinner tickets must be purchased through Jan. 23 and must be in-hand at banquet.
 Available at WHPO and online at www.hoopestonjaycees.org

Email: publish@justthefacts.net Phone/Fax (217) 283-9348
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Local girl's poem, 'Happier Free,' wins national recognition

A Hoopeston girl has been named a winner in the 13th annual National Bird Day poetry contest.

Born Free USA, a global leader in animal welfare and wildlife conservation, announced that Alyssa Marie Graveline, 17, was the first place winner in the 13 to 18 age group.

In the fall, children ages 5 to 18 were invited to submit original poems around the theme "Poetry Uncaged," reflecting the plight of exotic birds in captivity, the pet bird trade, and the dangers to birds in the wild: the focus of National Bird Day on January 5.

In her poem, "Happier Free," Graveline writes "Let me find treetops and fly from them when I just have that urge to meet the sky again."

Graveline's poem, in its entirety, reads:

HAPPIER FREE
 Wings should mean freedom,
 Wings should mean fame
 Wings should show beauty,
 When they don't it's a shame.
 My feathers are strong
 Though delicate too.
 When you clip them I'm stuck,
 & that you should rue.
 Let me find treetops,
 & fly from them when
 I just have that urge
 To meet the sky again.
 To place my own brightness



GRAVELINE

Behind your own bars
 Is such selfishness
 That shows as bad scars.
 When I leave the nest,
 It's not to meet you.
 You hold me back from
 The calling sky's cue.
 Let me have heights
 & reach full success.
 I'll be better this way,
 Have happiness to express.
 I don't wish for ground
 I'm meant for high heights.
 Appreciate me free
 & I'll fly many more flights.

Winning poems were posted on the Born Free USA and National Bird Day websites and will be featured in an upcoming issue of Born Free USA's national magazine, *Animal Issues Digest*. They also receive tee shirts, DVDs, and more.

When hearing of her win, Graveline said, "When I saw that I had won the National Bird Day poetry contest, I laughed in surprise as I felt this was unexpected, yet delightful. I could not help but feel proud that my work impressed those who judged my poem."

"We are impressed by the scope and creativity of these children and their understanding of the plight of birds," said Adam M. Roberts, Born Free USA CEO. "Our judges enjoyed reading the poems and had a tough time making their final decisions. We are thrilled that future conservationists - these young children - can help spread the word that birds belong in the wild, and help National Bird Day continue to be a success. We thank them and their parents for entering the contest."

National Bird Day is when Born Free USA, in con-
See POEM on other side

Wednesday:
\$1 draft, \$1 Margaritas, and more!
TACO NIGHT!
Thursday:
15c WINGS!
\$5 Appetizer PLATTERS.
Drink specials and more!
 No food Friday.
Last week of food for a couple weeks, while changes being made... Stay tuned!


The Pump
 Bar & Package Liquor Store
 1023 W. Main, Hoopeston

 **HERITAGE HEALTH**
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Heritage Health and Senior Care of Hoopeston has part time CNA positions available on all shifts. These positions have the opportunity for growth to full-time with benefit package. We can offer you a competitive wage, and a wonderful staff of caregivers to work with, plus much more! We are an equal opportunity provider and employer! Please apply online or stop by and complete an application today.

Heritage Health
Attn: Marlo Davis
423 N. Dixie Hwy.
Hoopeston, IL 60942



Photo contributed

County champs

Hoopston Area seventh graders brought home the trophy in the county championship game on January 12, defeating Jamaica 29-26 and bringing the team's record to 18-1. Pictured are front, from left, Rhys Root, Colby Burton, Payton Berlin, Chase Milner and Kolin Dugle; and back, Hunter Tate, assistant coach Darin Tate, Cameron Flint, Bradley Herman, Lucas Hofer, Brodee Herman, Rayden Clingenpeel, coach Ron Cade and Josh Delfino.

Hoopston Area wrestlers declaw Panthers in 53-21 win

Cornjerker wrestlers traveled to Paxton-Buckley Loda High School Thursday where the team tamed the kitty when they defeated the Panthers, 53-21.

Individual scoring was:

170- M. Newman (HA) fall 3:14 T. Wood

182- A. Riddle (HA) fall 3:20 C. Meece

195- C. Powell (PBL) fall 1:08 B. Gaddis

220- A. Pippin (PBL) fall 2:33 A. Linares

285- J. Mrase (PBL) FFT

106- J. Cropper (HA) tech fall 3:01 Z. Shilts

113- Double FFT

120- T. Garrett (HA) FFT

126- I. Simpson (HA) fall 1:26 T. Siddell

132- I. Bell (HA) fall 4:36 T. Ellis

138- C. Sullivan (PBL) dec. 6-1 E. Zamora

Poem continued from other side

junction with Avian Welfare Coalition, focuses on issues critical to the protection and survival of captive and wild birds. The annual initiative features education and action to stop the international trade in wild birds, raise awareness about standards of care for birds who have been adopted as pets, and push for a deeper respect and understanding about the plight of all birds.

Born Free USA is a global leader in animal welfare and wildlife conservation. Through litigation, legislation, and public education, Born Free USA leads vital campaigns against animals in entertainment, exotic "pets," trapping and fur, and the destructive international wildlife trade.

Born Free USA brings the message of "compassionate conservation"—the vision of the U.K.-based Born Free Foundation, established in 1984 by Bill Travers and Virginia McKenna, stars of the iconic film *Born Free*, along with their son Will Travers. Born Free's mission is to end suffering of wild animals in captivity, conserve threatened and endangered species, and encourage compassionate conservation globally. Information is available at www.bornfreeusa.org, www.twitter.com/bornfreeusa, and www.facebook.com/bornfreeusa.

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 42. Tonight, chance of snow. Low 30. Tomorrow, chance of snow. High 46, low 25.

145- C. Coon (HA) fall 1:21 A. Forbes

152- C. Chandler (HA) fall 5:26 J. Parrish

160- B. Simon (HA) fall 2:21 G. Ogburn

The team was scheduled to take part in the Cumberland Duals at Cumberland High School on Saturday and face Bismarck-Henning at home on Thursday.

Obituaries

HEDGECOCK—Joyce Darlene (Larrabee) Hedgecock, 84, of Hoopston, died at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015, at Heritage Health, Hoopston. Visitation will be 10 a.m. until the noon funeral Wednesday at Hoopston Community Church of the Nazarene. Burial will follow in Floral Hill Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the church, 402 E. Honeywell Ave., Hoopston IL 60942. Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopston, is in charge of arrangements.



Classifieds

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Layden Manor Apartments Hoopston accepting applications for 2 bedroom first floor apartment. \$450/mo rent with \$450 deposit. Water and electric separate. No Pets. Call 217-304-1761 to leave a message for appointment.

HELP WANTED

Hoopston American Legion now accepting application for a part time bartender (must be 21). No experience required. Apply Wed -Sat after 3 P.M. at 502 E. Penn St.

Call (217) 283-9348 or email

publish@justthefacts.net to place your ad!