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Just the Facts Lourdine Florek, Owner
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Honeywell Principal Suzi Root waves goodbye to students Wednesday, the last day of school for the summer. When the new school year starts, Root will be principal at Maple and Honeywell will be closed.

Honeywell students express differing emotions on last day

The last day of school is always a joyous day for students, and that held true Wednesday at Honeywell Grade School - mostly.

At 11 a.m. Wednesday, students congregated in the gym for the very last time on the very last day of the school year, the very last school year ever at Honeywell.

Then it was time to go and some bodies scurried to catch a bus and others ran across the playground to waiting parents.

"I love this day," one boy exclaimed, arms flailing, as he shot across the playground, kicking off weeks of freedom. Several youngsters shared his emotion, shouting

each other about plans for today, tomorrow, next week, none of which had anything to do with computers, bells or teachers.

Others left a little more somberly. One youngster kissed his hand and touched the wall of the 90-year-old building before jogging to catch his bus.

As buses departed, Suzi Root stood on the sidewalk and, for the last time, waved at students as they headed off into the summer.

Next year, Root will be Maple principal. This year's third graders will be fourth graders at John Greer, which

See HONEYWELL on other side

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Coty L. Morgeson, 26, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 2:07 a.m. Thursday in the 600 block of East Seminary. Wanted on a Champaign County warrant, he was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await extradition.

Carrie A. Arce, 38, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 9:23 a.m. Thursday after city court officers saw heart Hoopeston Municipal Court and knew she was wanted on a Vermilion County warrant.

Honeywell continued from other side

will contain third through fifth grade. Sixth grade, which



Honeywell students leave school Wednesday to start their summer vacation. This group of third and fourth graders is the last at the school, which will be closed.

From the Blotter

Arce was released on bond with a new court date.

Two people were arrested after employees alleged they left Dollar General without paying for several items.

Allison Habied, 32, of Paxton and Robin Irvin, 36, of

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 3:19 a.m. Friday to a ditch fire on Rt. 9 and 1700 East Rd.

had been at John Greer, will move to the middle school.

The changes are part of a transition plan that began last April when Hoopeston Area officials approved closing Honeywell.

Honeywell was Hoopeston's first school, originally built in 1873 and named Honeywell Seminary after Alba Honeywell. The current building was constructed in 1927.

At a public meeting a year ago, HA board member Mark Schaumburg, then building and grounds committee chairman, said the decision to close Honeywell was made because of a drop in enrollment as well as the cost of improvements at the school, including \$62,000 for a new roof, \$450,000 for a new boiler and \$120,000 for tuck pointing.

The district also expects to save \$253,000 annually by not paying an additional principal and other staff, utility costs of \$25,000 per year, and other maintenance costs, said Supt. Hank Hornbeck.

With high utility and maintenance costs, board members were reserved about the possibility of a business venture going in the building. Hornbeck said the board does not want to leave an eyesore in the middle of Hoopeston. To that end, the board has looked at asbestos removal and demolition costs totaling more than \$300,000, which would be recouped in two years.

A final decision on the future of the building has not been announced.

Weather

Sunny today. High 79. Tonight, mostly clear Low 53. Tomorrow, sunny. High 75, low 55.

Hoopeston, were located in McFerren Park and charged with theft. They were released on notices to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

Matthew Hofer, 34, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were called at 1:38 a.m. Saturday to the 500 block of West Elm for a reported domestic battery.

He was charged with domestic battery and interfering in the reporting of domestic battery on a complaint from a 34-year-old Hoopeston woman who alleged Hofer took her phone to keep her from reporting the battery.

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

Jacob A. Nolan, 18, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were called at 6 a.m. Saturday for a report of an accident at West Maple and South Eighth Ave., and that he left his 1995 Mercury and ran through the fencing at McFerren Park.

He was arrested on preliminary charges of illegal transportation of alcohol, zero tolerance underage, failure to provide information after an accident, operating an uninsured vehicle, disobeying a traffic control device and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

Nolan was released on notices to appear in Vermilion County traffic court.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Hoopeston: Cozy 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath. Recently painted, well-maintained. Refrigerator, stove, full basement. Walk to shopping. Nice yard. Quiet area. Handicap accessible. Nonsmoking, no pets. References checked. Available June 1. \$485/mo, \$485 dep. Call or text 217-260-8762.

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