

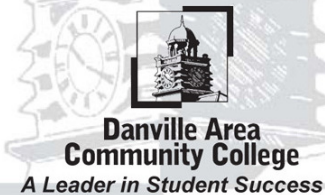
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Bob Veto, of Veto Enterprises in Sycamore, left and Hoopeston Police Sgt. Jim DeWitt show off the department's new vehicle, which is expected to be on the streets this week.

Hoopeston officers to be truckin' in new department vehicle

Since 2004, Veto Enterprises of Sycamore has provided police vehicles for movies and television shows, including all police cars for two Batman movies and various police, fire and emergency medical vehicles for "Empire," "Chicago PD," "Chicago Fire" and "Shameless."

Another of Veto Enterprises' vehicles will be chasing bad guys soon, but not for the big or small screens.

Hoopeston Police Department's newest vehicle, a 2017 Dodge Ram, was delivered Friday by Veto Enterprises founder Bob Veto.

Longer than Veto has provided vehicles for movies, he has provided them for law enforcement, focusing on that when he originated Veto Enterprises.

The truck boasts a Hemi engine, front-mounted brush guard and an interior geared to police work. The cab has bucket seats in front, separated by a center console and is equipped with a stand for the electronic ticketing system the department will eventually use. Front airbags may be turned on or off - on when a passenger is in the second seat and off when an officer rides alone to keep the e-ticketing equipment from being dislodged and causing injuries, Veto said.

The front and back seats are divided by equipment to keep officers safe, including special windows between the compartments and barred windows in the back.

The granite grey has been accentuated by grey/white
See VEHICLE on other side

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Vehicle continued from other side

gradient lettering with a large POLICE and smaller "City



Above, Sgt. Jim DeWitt shows off the interior of Hoopeston Police Department's new truck. Far right, logos and lettering on the truck.

of Hoopeston" underneath, all outlined in blue. A replica of the department's shield, with the car number instead of a badge number, is on the driver's side door. The tailgate includes a rendition of the department's patch.

The cargo area has storage compartments on the driver and passenger sides to hold things like stop sticks, first aid equipment, traffic vests and other equipment, said Sgt. Jim DeWitt. And whether it's bicycles or bales of marijuana, the bed will allow officers to more easily move larger articles.

Flashing lights are mounted on the front, top and rear. The top light bar includes a bright search light as well as the ability to dim the flashers. The decals are all reflective. "It's going to be visible, no doubt," DeWitt said.

The truck and equipment totaled \$34,600 through the Illinois bidding pool. The city accrues funds annually to purchase vehicles as needed.

DeWitt, who is currently acting chief, said he would like to see more trucks added to the department in the future. Fuel costs are about comparable to police cars, and the purchase price is not exorbitant compared to a cruiser, he said. The ability to haul bigger items gives the truck a nudge over a car in his opinion.

And if he has anything to say about it, the department's next vehicle may just come from Veto Enterprises, which includes Veto's children. DeWitt has worked with many family members in the purchase process and was thankful that Bob Veto was willing to deliver the truck to Hoopeston. "I'm impressed with the whole family," he said.

The truck is set to be in use Monday or Tuesday after all paperwork was completed.



Bowling team starts new era for Lady Cornjerker sports

On Tuesday, Dec. 5, the Hoopeston Area Lady Cornjerkers start a new era for Hoopeston Area athletics. The Lady Cornjerkers will have their first ever IHSA bowling match with Herscher High School. The match will be held at 4:30 p.m. at Brookmart Bowling Center, Kankakee.

Members of the HA team are Emma Glotzbach, Alyssa Yaden, Kayla Goble, Jaylin Linder and Mercy Linder.

After three years of participating as individuals in the IHSA, Athletic Director Michl Kearney followed on Brian Hodge's dream of getting bowling in the school system and found teams in Herscher and Bloomington/Peoria areas so Hoopeston would meet the IHSA requirement of six matches to participate as a team.

Hoopeston Area will then participate on December 9 in Bloomington for an eight-team tournament. Home matches will be held at Fast Lanes at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19 against Bloomington High and on January 20 against Herscher.

Court Dispositions

October 5

Joseph Cannon, Hoopeston, status check November 2.

Myrna Moore, Hoopeston, found guilty of theft, fined \$200; status hearing November 2.

Patrick Clingenpeel Jr., trial moved to November 2.

Lanie Inglis, Hoopeston, trial moved to November 2.
Austin Rhodes II, trial moved to November 2.

November 2

William Thomas, Hoopeston, general nuisance case continued to December 7.

John Kopcha, Hoopeston, pleaded not guilty/found guilty by hearing officer of general nuisance, fined \$180; status hearing December 7.

Melissa Johnson, Danville, failed to appear for general nuisance, found guilty by default, fined \$180; status hearing December 7.

Belinda Solis, Hoopeston, failed to appear for general nuisance, found guilty by default, fined \$180; status hearing December 7.

Obituaries

JUDY - Dorothy (Kitts) Judy, 85, of Rossville, died at 3:55 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, 2017 at Heritage health, Hoopeston. Visitation will be 10 a.m. until the noon funeral Tuesday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will follow in Rossville Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Iroquois Memorial Hospice, 200 Laird Lane, Watseka IL 60970.

Weather

Mostly sunny, breezy today. High 38. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 23. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 35, low 20.

Classifieds

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