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 Wednesday, January 31, 2018 *Lourdine Florek, Owner*
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 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Hoopeston Area focusing on mental health, further education

Every child has dreams and goals and it is up to educators to help them reach their aspirations.

But life sometimes throws difficulties in the paths of those dreams and goals. Hoopeston Area Supt. Suzette Hesser believes teachers - and the community at large - can help with that, too.

Hesser, keynote speaker at Sunday's Community Awards ceremony, spoke about two things that will help students: more awareness of their mental health and the chance for every student to attend college.

Officials know there is a mental health crisis among students because a 2016 survey showed 35 percent of seniors reported depression, with 16 percent reporting severe suicidal thoughts

Hoopeston Area is working on the former in many ways, including training all staff in Youth Mental Health First Aid. In addition, Trauma Informed training has also been made available, which helps school staff deal with the whole person of the student, taking into account past trauma and resulting coping mechanisms that result in current behavior.

The district is also participating, along with Iroquois Mental Health Center in Watseka, and Carle, in applying for a Children's mental Health Initiative 2.0 grant, which will enhance students' community of care.

Hesser also spoke about Promise Scholars program, what she called a community guarantee for college for all HA graduates.

Under Promise Scholars, the district would develop benchmarks for students to attain, while financial support would be generated by the community and groups.

Currently, Hesser said, only 35 percent of students fill out the necessary financial form (FAFSA), while seven out of 10 students qualifies for free college without help from the community.

Still in the planning stages, going forward, Hoopeston Area hopes to create an education foundation, consider community support for the program and explore funding options before a possible pilot program for 2018-19 fresh-



Hoopeston Area Supt. Suzette Hesser gives the keynote address at Sunday's Community Awards ceremony.

men, she said.

Hesser said she welcomes input from the community on these and other programs at the district. Comments may be emailed to her at hessersl@hoopeston.k12.il.us.

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Mark Your Calendars and Get Registered!!
Grant Writing 101
 Saturday, Feb. 10, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Register by February 2.
Yoga with Olga
 Tuesday & Thursday, Feb. 13-Mar. 8, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 Registration deadline February 5, 2018
American Sign Language 1
 Saturday, February 17-March 10, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
 Registration deadline February 9, 2018
Landscaping 101
 with Sheila Schmidt of Garden Essentials
 Tuesday, Feb. 20 and 27, 6-8 p.m. Register by Feb. 12
Conversational Russian
 Monday, Feb. 5-March 5, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Register by February 19.
Food Service License
 Wednesday, Mar. 21-April 18, 6:30-9 p.m. Register by Mar. 7.
 Visit **DACC.EDU/HOOPESTON** for more info!!
Call for more information and to register!
 Call 217-283-4170, stop by 847 E. Orange, Hoopeston
 or visit www.dacc.edu/hoopeston

Tech fall against Bismarck gives Elliott 100th high school win

Hoopeston Area senior Ezra Elliott received his 100th high school career win with a technical fall against Bismarck in a January 18 meet.

Despite Elliott's win at 138, the Cornjerkers lost to the Blue Devils, 47-26, at Bismarck. Scoring was:

- 106-Tables (Bismarck) FF
 - 113-Larkin (Hoopeston) tech fall over Pat-tison
 - 120- Dykes (Bismarck) FF
 - 126- Taylor (Bismarck) FF
 - 132- Smith (Bismarck) tech fall over Funk
 - 138- Elliott (Hoopeston) tech fall over Wal-worth
 - 145- Warner (Bismarck) pin over Burton
 - 152- Gaddis (Hoopeston) decision over Akins
 - 160- Ashby (Hoopeston) tech fall over Wrigmeier
 - 170-Zamora (Hoopeston) tech fall over Steidel
 - 182-Ault (Bismarck) FF
 - 195- Colunga (Hoopeston) decision over Depuy
 - 220-C.Miller (Bismarck) pin over Kenner
 - 285-T.Miller (Bismarck) FF
- Hoopeston Area grapplers brought home fifth place overall and three individual firsts from the Bowman Invitation in Leroy on January 20.
- Elliott at 126, Dale Ashby at 160 and Eliseo Zamora at 170, all took first place in their classes. Scoring was:
- 113-Ethan Larkin 2-1(5th place)



Photo submitted Dale Ashby, Eliseo Zamora and Ezra Elliott at the Bowman Invitational in Leroy.

- 126- Ezra Elliott 3-0 (1st place)
- 132-Audra Funk 0-2
- 152- Cole Gaddis 3-1 (5th place)
- 160- Dale Ashby 3-0 (1st place)
- 170- Eliseo Zamora 3-0 (1st place)
- 195-Adam Colunga 0-2
- 220- Gage Kenner 0-2
- 285- CJ Curry 2-1 (5th place)

Briefly

Surprise 70th birthday bash

A surprise birthday party for Gary Warf will be held at 7 p.m. February 3 at Fast Lanes. Friends are invited to stop by the open house-style celebration.

Sweetheart Banquet

The 27th annual HAHS Student Council Sweetheart Banquet will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9 in the high school gym. Hoopeston Area and Rossville senior citizens are invited. Please call (217) 283-6661 with your name and number in your party by February 2.

At the Library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include: Builder's Club, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Thursday. Kids in

grades K-5 get to build cool stuff!

Tiny Tots, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Friday. For kids ages 0-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

Preschool screenings

Preschool screenings for area children ages 3-5 will be held locally next month. Developmental, hearing and vision tests will be given with possible preschool or early childhood placements for children who qualify.

In Hoopeston, a screening will be held February 8 at First Presbyterian Church, 915 E. Orange.

A screening will be held in Rossville on February 22, at Rossville Church of Christ, 514 E. Attica.

To make an appointment, call (217) 444-3266.

Letters to the Editor

Thanks for another successful auction

A huge thank you to all who came out and bid and bought items at the FFA auction on Saturday. Because of your generosity, it was a huge success. We will be able to continue to assist kids in pursuing their goals and dreams in Agriculture.

A big thank you to Mr. B's and Jerry's IGA for donating the food for the meal.

Thank you to all the businesses who donated the items for the auction. We couldn't have the auction without those items. A thank you to all the people who made baked goods to sell and for the meal

Again we appreciate everyone's generosity and support. We couldn't do it without you. We are proud to be

a part of a great and generous community

Hoopeston Area Alumni FFA

Thank you for Christmas blessings

This letter is a long-time coming, but I want to thank you all who worked so hard for us putting on the Christmas Dinner, delivering and donating the food.

A thank you also to the Church of God and the lady who delivered the "senior bag." It was all very much appreciated by all. And let us not forget, the needy and lonely are with us every day.

God bless you all with your needs and a blessed New Year.

Alice Fink
Hoopeston

From the Blotter

A pair of purple eyeglasses was found Wednesday at Parkview Court. The owner may identify and claim them at the police station.

A 38-year-old Hoopeston man reported at 8:17 a.m. Sunday that during the night, someone punctured a tire on his semi parked in the 200 block of West Maple.

Mona Perez, 32, of Hoopeston, was arrested after a 21-year-old Rantoul woman reported a possible trespassing in the 600 block of West Elm. Perez was located, charged with trespassing and released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

Skylar Pickett, 26, of Hoopeston, was arrested for an incident at 5:24 p.m. Sunday in the 700 block of First Ave. Pickett, banned from the property, was charged with criminal trespass and released on bond with a notice to appear.

Police are investigating an auto burglary reported at

Court Dispositions

January 4

Bridget Strawser, Hoopeston, failed to appear, found guilty by default of battery, fined \$200; status check February 1.

Christopher Staats, Hoopeston, failed to appear, found guilty of disobeying police, fined \$180; status check February 1.

Weather

Mostly cloudy, breezy today. High 45. Tonight, cloudy. Low 29. Tomorrow, cloudy. High 32, low 7.

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 10:40 a.m. January 24 for mutual aid for a fully involved house fire in the 200 block of Henderson in Rossville.

Firemen were called at 3:46 p.m. that day to an activated fire alarm in the 200 block of West Main. Maintenance personnel reported it was a false alarm.

Obituaries

WEBER - Randall Lawrence "Randy" Weber, 60, of Ambia, Ind., died at 12:26 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 27, 2018 in Hoopeston. Visitation will be 10 a.m. (CST) until the 1 p.m. funeral Wednesday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will follow in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to donor's choice.

Classifieds

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