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Hoopeston Area FFA returns from convention with awards

SPRINGFIELD—Members of the Hoopeston Area FFA chapter attended the 90th annual Illinois State FFA Convention June 12-14, along with more than 5,000 other FFA members, advisors, and guests.

"Be Bold" was the theme of the three-day event which recognizes achievements of Illinois FFA members, elects the major state officer team, and celebrates agriculture. Students at the convention were greeted with activities including a career fair featuring colleges and agribusinesses, an evening dance and talent show, and an opportunity to engage in the history of Illinois' capital city.

The convention's 2018 service project benefitted children through "The Crayon Initiative," which collects old, used crayons and creates new ones for distribution to art programs at children's hospitals across the nation.

The convention program featured addresses by National FFA Southern Region Vice President Ian Bennett of Georgia and from each of the retiring major state officers.

During the convention, the following awards were presented to the Hoopeston Area FFA chapter:

Growing Leaders National Chapter Award Section Winner: As part of the National Chapter Award program and the chapter's program of activities, Growing

Leaders is designed to encourage the chapter to develop individual and cooperative activities to enhance students' life skills.

Building Communities National Chapter Award

Section Winner: As part of the National Chapter Award program and the chapter's program of activities, Building Communities is designed to encourage the local development of FFA partnerships with alumni affiliates and other organizations while taking a leadership role in making the community a better place to live and work.

Strengthening Agriculture National Chapter Award Section Winner: As part of the National Chapter Award program and the chapter's program of activities, Strengthening Agriculture is designed to encourage opportunities and service for members, such as promoting increased member participation and financial responsibility, creating a positive image, and interacting with support groups and cooperatives through

organized activities.

Foundation Star Sponsor: Hoopeston FFA Alumni The chapter was recognized for making a gift to the Illinois Foundation FFA of at least \$1,000 during the annual fundraising campaign.

See FFA on other side



Colby Burton and Baylee Bushong with Hoopeston FFA's Strengthening Agriculture award.

Photos contributed

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Letters to the Editor

Investments That Matter

In recent years we have seen CVS invest big money into a new facility at the intersection of Rt. 1 & 9. Gibson City Hospital has developed a large medical services office next door. Casey's built two locations to serve Hoopeston. McDonald's purchased land and built a beautiful new restaurant on the corner. IGA has underwent a very involved expansion. A Mexican restaurant has opened where CVS once sat in the shopping center.

Just to the west of the intersection, Cox Memorials has been established. To the north, Dollar General put up a new building and moved from downtown. Anthem Chevrolet underwent a major face-lift to enhance the appearance of their dealership. Molly Culbert's underwent revamping and a large build-on to become Treasured Roots. Do It Best Hardware put up a new building to expand their lumber supplies. Across the street is the newly constructed nursing home.

South of Market Street and Rt. 9, Autumn Fields developed a large senior citizen complex. Behind this location, a large subdivision was established and now additional houses are being built behind Casey's.

What do all these activities have in common? They

were dreamed up and accomplished by individuals with private money to invest. They did not depend on city taxpayers to pay for their dreams or to insure their success.

We should not be thinking about putting up three million dollars we don't have to finance the dreams of a truck stop, motel, restaurant or whatever else may come to mind. This should be the responsibility of those who dream up the plans.

After being committed to a \$9 per month dispatch fee that we did not have a choice on, we must make it clear to our aldermen that we do not want additional financial burdens hanging over our head.

It would seem that such a major obligation should be put to a vote by the people being effected. If not, we must be strong and steady in letting our city council know how we feel about this long term risky undertaking.

Marty Parsons
Hoopeston

Just the Facts welcomes letters to the editor, which may be emailed to publish@justthefacts.net or mailed to Just the Facts, P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942. Include your name, address and phone number for verification.

FFA continued from other side

Foundation \$3,000 Club Award Recipient: The chapter was recognized for coordinating a local campaign for the Illinois Foundation FFA which raised at least \$3,000. The chapter's fundraising total was \$9,450.

2018-2019 Section President: Daniel Bass was installed as the President of Illinois FFA's Section 18. The 25 newly installed Section Presidents are members of the 2018-2019 Illinois



Daniel Bass



Kolin Dugle and Megan Schmid with Hoopeston Area High School FFA's Banker's Plaque Award.

Obituaries

RITTER - William Lewis "Bill" Ritter, 60, of West Terre Haute, Ind., died Wednesday, June 14, 2018 at home. He was cremated. Memorials are suggested to Hospice of the Wabash Valley, 400 Eighth Ave., Terre Haute IN 47808. Among his survivors is his mother, Kay Ritter, of Rossville. Fitzpatrick Funeral Home, West Terre Haute, handled arrangements.

Weather

Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight, tomorrow. High today 90, low 70. Tomorrow, high 83, low 64.

State Officer Team.

Section Banker's Plaque Award: The Banker's Plaque is given to the chapter in each section with the highest overall score on the National Chapter Award application.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

HOOPESTON: 2 Bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Handicap Accessible. Full basement. Clean, great neighborhood. Yard w/patio. W/D hookup. Walk to stores. **NON SMOKING.** No pets. Text 217-260-8762. Available June 1. \$485.

Large 3 bedroom apartment, down stairs, washer dryer hook up, \$500 month 217-283-7439

Honeywell Apartments: 2 BR, includes water, heat, pest control, off street parking (815) 984-4513

HELP WANTED

Looking for part-time help to care for elderly gentleman, prefer CNA, but will consider others. Please send resume to POB 85, East Lynn, IL 60932.

Hoopeston handyman wanted. Indoor painting and misc. Call (217) 274-2039 afternoons.

Small Wonders Preschool: Resumes for our Assistant Teacher position can be sent to First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 297, Hoopeston, by July 15. This is a part-time position, 8 – 11:30 a.m. M-F, beginning September 1. Qualifications include being high school graduate and having a love of kids!

HOUSES FOR RENT

Hoopeston - So 4th Street. Very nice, clean, two bedroom home. Remodeled kitchen with carpenter built cupboards. DW, OTR, Range, Refrig, Disposal. Beautiful hardwood floor in LV Room. Full basement with washer/dryer. Central AC. Two car garage with electric garage opener. NO pets. Smoke Free. \$550/month with deposit. Call 217-283-7568 or 217-304-0935 for application.

Hoopeston - Newer Duplex, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, W/D hookup, laundry room, yard, patio. Walk to shopping. Nonsmoking. No pets. Available July 1, 2018. \$600/mo. 217-260-8762.

HOUSES FOR SALE

Nice 2 bedroom house, unfinished upstairs could be 3rd bedroom, with 2 car garage with electric door. Has Privacy fence. Only \$17,500..Call 217-283-6021 and leave a phone number and we will call you back.

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Job change?

If you're not with your former employer, did you mean to leave your 401(k)? Call today to discuss options!



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* Options for your previous employer 401(k) may include: leave the money in the plan, if permitted; roll over the assets to a new employer plan; roll over the assets to an IRA; or cash out the account value. Be sure to weigh the pros and cons of all available options before making a decision.

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