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Just the Facts

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Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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Law enforcement agencies report new scam that takes over Google Voice, gmail accounts

Law enforcement agencies are warning the public of a new computer scam involving Google Voice.

Google Voice allows people to set up new virtual phone numbers that can be used to make domestic and international calls and send and receive text messages. A person does not have to have a Google Voice account to be scammed.

The scam starts when someone posts his or her real phone number on an online platform. Scammers often target people who use popular marketplace apps or websites to post items for sale. Another type of site receiving attention from scammers is to post lost pets.

The scammer will contact the intended victim by text or email to say he found Fido or wants to buy

that used car, but he wants to make sure the victim is legitimate so he - the scammer - doesn't get scammed. The scammer will say he will send an authentication code from Google to confirm the victim is a real person, not a bot.

The victim will receive the authentication code via a voice call or text message. The scammer then asks the victim to repeat that number to him.

What the bad guy is really doing is setting up a Google Voice account in the victim's name, using the victim's real phone number as verification. Once this is set up, he can use the Google Voice account to conduct any number of scams against other victims, none of which will come back directly to him. He can

also use the code to gain access to and take over the victim's gmail account.

If someone has been scammed this way, they should check Google's website for how to take back control of the virtual voice account.

To avoid getting scammed in the first place, experts recommend the following tips:

Never share a Google verification code with others.
• Only deal with buyers, sellers, and finders of lost pets in person. If money is to exchange hands, make sure you are using legitimate payment processors.

See SCAM on other side

Loda man in critical condition, second Loda man arrested

An unidentified Loda man is in critical condition at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana, after he was shot Wednesday morning, while a second Loda man is being held in connection with the shooting.

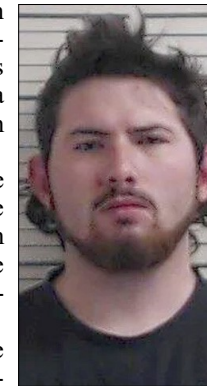
Iroquois County Sheriff's Police said a 911 call was received in the early morning hours, coming from a Loda residence. An ambulance was requested for someone bleeding from the head.

On arrival, EMS discovered the 19-year-old victim suffered a gunshot wound.

Wednesday evening, ICSD deputies arrested Colton M. Johnson, 22, of Loda, charging him with aggravated discharge of a firearm, a Class 1 felony. He was being held in jail awaiting a court appearance.

The shooting remains under investigation by the Sheriff's Office and Illinois State Police Crime Scene Unit.

Police said the shooting was an isolated incident and the community is not in danger.



JOHNSON

Paxton Area 217-841-4728 C/U Area 217 566-5005



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Speech bubbles:
- "I quit and sales dropped. A LOT!"
- "I'm back!"
- "People now know about my business!"
- "Money well spent!"
- "Thank you!"
- "It's Affordable!"
- "Sign It's the best place for ads!"

Sports

Bowling

Coach Doug Wagoner hopes to stream Saturday’s bowling sectional at Alton Saturday morning. Two bowlers - Ethan Harding and Gavin Miller - advanced from regionals last week, but Miller had to withdraw for medical reasons. Action begins at 9 a.m. at Bowl Haven Lanes. No fans will be allowed.

Boys Basketball

Hoopeston Area lost a home conference game against Oakwood on January 4, losing to the comets, 57-45.

Senior Ben Brown led scoring with 24 of the team’s 45 points. Fellow senior Nick Hofer added seven, as did sophomore Wyann Eisenmann. Preston VanDeVeer added five and Mason Rush chipped in two.

Brown, Hofer, VanDeVeer and Eisenmann each had a three-pointer to their credit.

Brown was 7 of 8 at the free throw line and VanDeVeer attempted two and made both.

On Saturday, the team played their first game in the Vermilion County Tournament, losing a close match to Bismarck-Henning/Rossville-Alvin, 50-41.

Brown again led scoring, with 20 points, including

one three point shot. Hofer’s three three-pointers gave him 11 for the game. VanDeVeer had eight and Anthony Zamora scored two.

Brown was 5/5 from the free throw line, with VanDeVeer 1/2.

The Cornjerkers suffered a second loss in tournament action Tuesday, to Salt Fork, 50-36.

Brown scored 14 points during the game, followed

by Zamora with 11, Hofer with seven, VanDeVeer had three and Ethan Steiner added 1. Hofer and VanDeVeer each had a trey.

Brown was 2/2 at the line, with Zamora and Steiner hitting 1/2.

The boys were set to play Thursday night. The tournament, held at the David S. Palmer Arena, ends Saturday.

Court Dispositions

December 8

Lisa M. Staley, Watseka, appeared at trial for unlawful acts constituting disorder, fined \$180; status hearing January 12.

Jerry D. Sisk, Hoopeston, appeared at status hearing in two general nuisance cases; status hearing January 12.

Patrick R. Nichols, Hoopeston, failed to appear at initial appearance for general nuisance, sentencing January 12.

Lindsey M. Warner, Hoopeston, failed to appear for alcoholic containers prohibited in public, found

guilty by default, fined \$180; status hearing January 12.

Lindsey M. Warner, Hoopeston, failed to appear at initial appearance for disobeying police, found guilty by default, fined \$280; status hearing January 12.

Thad Finnell, Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing for general nuisance; case sent to state for further enforcement.

Jose S. Colunga, Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to general nuisance at initial appearance, fined \$180; status hearing January 12.

Briefly

Addiction recovery group

Addiction recovery group for men. 6 p.m. Sundays in Rossville. Call or text 217-304-4211 or 217-260-1361 for details.

Scam continued from other side

- Don’t give out your email address to buyers/sellers conducting business via phone.
- Don’t let someone rush you into a sale. If they are pressuring you to respond, they are likely trying to manipulate you into acting without thinking.

Those who believe they are the victims of an online scam should report it to the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov or call the local FBI office.

Weather

Sunny today. High 26. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 14. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 30, low 16. Sunday, chance of snow, mostly cloudy. High 27, low 16.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Area CUSD #11 is accepting applications for summer cleaning crew. Applications may be picked up at the District Office and dropped off no later than February 18, 2022.

City of Hoopeston is accepting applications for swimming pool assistant manager and lifeguards. Application and job description are available at www.cityofhoopeston.com or at Hoopeston City Hall, 301 W. Main St.

Silver Brothers is looking for part-time mixer drivers. Hours will vary. Must have Class B CDL, pass a drug test, be able to climb a ladder, and lift 75 lbs. Pay will be \$20/hour to an experienced driver. Perfect opportunity for a retired person wanting some extra money. Stop by 105 E. Washington, Hoopeston for application.

KS i is looking for qualified candidates for the seasonal position of Production Associate in our Cissna Park facility. This position is primarily responsible for mechanical assembly of conveyors and final units. Potential candidates should possess a beginner level of mechanical skills and have a strong work ethic. Position would be M-F workweeks up to 45 hours per week. Majority of work would be in heated shop for cold winter months. Fill out an application from our website, www.ksiedge.com, send inquiries to hr@ksiedge.com, or call 785-284-0600 ext. 1422. Applications may also be picked up at our location: 454 N State Route 49, Cissna Park, IL 60924.

Teasdale Latin Foods is hiring for a new temporary position. Competitive pay, 5-6 hrs./day, five days a week. Great for retirees, college students or someone laid off looking to work part time. Apply in person or online: <https://teasdale-latin-foods.breezy.hr/>

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is HIRING! Apply at www.full-fill.com/employmentopportunities Applications available onsite. EOE

HA CUSD #11 is accepting applications for a part time computer technician assistant. Duties include providing desktop support, assisting with infrastructure and A/V projects. <https://phl.applitrack.com/roe54/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=Technology>

East Lynn Fertilizer is seeking a full time applicator. Call 217-375-4225 or stop by 41284 S Main St., East Lynn, IL for more details.

Aquality Solutions is looking for full-time delivery drivers skilled in efficiency, organization, and flexibility. Delivery Drivers will deliver bottled water and bagged salt to commercial and residential customers and must have knowledge or be willing to learn maintenance operations when not driving. Apply in person at 102 N 1st St. in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

HOUSES FOR RENT

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