Editor’s note: This is the next in a series of construction updates from Hoopeston Area Superintendent Robert Richardson. He will keep the community updated on the cafeteria construction and other projects in the district.

The new school year is upon us, and we had a successful back to school week. Construction continues on our cafeteria expansion. Brick veneer is being placed on the north exterior wall of the cafeteria and around the new doors.

Once the brick layers have completed the brickwork, new sidewalks and a repair to the parking lot will take place. The repair location is directly north of the cafeteria and will allow for proper parking lot drainage. During the repair period, this area will be partially open in after-school hours, for after-school activities.

Steel for the roof and trim is scheduled to arrive the third week in September. The roof should take 7-10 days to complete once the supplies have arrived. The contractors are dealing with shipping delays, as a result the exterior doors and windows are scheduled to arrive the second week in October.

The inside of the cafeteria is taking shape. The walls have been painted, and the final coat will be applied once the windows and the ceiling grid are installed. Trunk lines for the HVAC have been installed in the cafeteria. Air handling units are delayed from the factory, but are scheduled to arrive mid to late September. Once they have been delivered, the new air handling units will replace the current units, which have been left in place in the middle school to manage air conditioning needs in the interim.

Electricians are installing exterior lighting and will install interior lights once the ceiling grid is installed. The new cafeteria tables were delivered on September 8th, and will be in use once the cafeteria expansion is operational. Thanks for your patience as we navigate this much-anticipated improvement for our district. The enclosed photos show the progress to date.

Richardson updates on cafeteria construction, in-town busing

The in-town bus service has been running since Day One of school. We have notified families of changes and made adjustments to best serve our students and families. We are transporting approximately 80-90 students in the mornings and 120-130 in the evenings with two buses. We are working on a backup plan to address increased riders once colder weather arrives. Thank you to all of you for working through the aches of providing in town bus service. The district is providing a great service to our community.
AULT - Samuel Robert “Bob” Ault, 89, of Hoopeston, passed away at 12:55 p.m. Saturday Sept. 10, 2022, at Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center. Bob was born July 21, 1933, at Rossville, in a small house surrounded by a creek and woods. He was the son of Frank and Nova (Bennett) Ault. He had six sisters and one brother, all all preceding him in death. He was raised on a farm and attended rural schools, graduating from Armstrong High School in 1951.


Bob started his career working in Danville at the General Motors plant and then the Allith Prouty Plant. In 1963, Bob started his work at American Can in Hoopeston. He retired as manager of product control in 1989. While living in Hoopeston raising his family, he was active in the PTA, Little League, and Pony League. He was a member of the Hubbard Trail Country Club and served on the Police Commission board. Bob also served as Mayor of Hoopeston for 15 years and alderman for eight years. He enjoyed working outside and always took great pride in his yard.

In addition to his wife and three children, Bob leaves behind six grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. Also, brother-in-law, David (Bunny) Taylor of Cincinnati, OH and sister-in-law, Martha Taylor of Boulder, CO.

A visitation will be held 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Thursday Sept. 15, at Anderson Funeral Home 427 E. Main St. Hoopeston. The funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home, with Pastor Tom McCann officiating. Burial will follow in Floral Hill Cemetery in Hoopeston. Memorials may be made to the Hoopeston Community Church of the Nazarene, 402 E. Honeywell Ave., Hoopeston, IL 60942; Iroquois Memorial Hospice, 200 Laird Lane Watseka, IL 60970; or to the donor’s choice.

Please visit www.anderson-funeral-home.com to view Bob’s eternal tribute page and to send the family condolences.

Anderson Funeral Home in Hoopeston is handling the arrangements.

LOWE - Nancy Kay (McBride) Lowe, 79, of Collisso, passed away at 2:40 p.m. Sunday Sept. 11, 2022, at her home. She was born July 9, 1943, in Danville, the daughter of Orner Royals “Todd” McBride and Mildred Olive (March) McBride Barker. She married David Lowe on July 11, 1958, in Hoopeston. He survives in Collisso. She is also survived by one daughter, Kristine (Bryan) McGoldrick of Safety Harbor, FL; two sons, Kevin Lowe of Penfield and Brett Lowe of Collisso; six grandchildren, Anthony and Ashley Lowe, Kayla Simmons, Taylor, Aether, and Kevin McGoldrick; four great-grandchildren, Taylor Aether, Omer McBride; one granddaughter, Brianna Lowe; and one niece, Cammi (McBride) Kirk. Nancy also owned and operated a janitorial service. She later worked in many retail stores and most recently worked for the US Postal Service. She was an avid bowler and was inducted into the bowling Hall of Fame in both Cham-paign and Vermilion counties. She also bowled in the state tournament for 50 straight years. Nancy’s hobbies included doing ceramics, antique shopping, and spending time with her family and friends, especially her grandchildren. She enjoyed traveling with her husband and special friends, the Anders family, and taking pictures. Nancy also enjoyed drinking a coke and a smoke and also a Mill-er Lite.

Visitation will be held 5-8 p.m. Thursday Sept. 15, at Anderson Funeral Home, 427 E. Main St. Hoopeston. The funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday Sept. 16, at the funeral home with Chaplain Glenn Corbly officiating.

Nancy also owned and operated a janitorial service. She later worked in many retail stores and most recently worked for the US Postal Service. She was an avid bowler and was inducted into the bowling Hall of Fame in both Champaign and Vermilion counties. She also bowled in the state tournament for 50 straight years. Nancy’s hobbies included doing ceramics, antique shopping, and spending time with her family and friends, especially her grandchildren. She enjoyed traveling with her husband and special friends, the Anders family, and taking pictures. Nancy also enjoyed drinking a coke and a smoke and also a Miller Lite.

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