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Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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Photo contributed
Hoopeston High School student Gage Kenner (right) proposes new legislation at State Senator Jason Barickman's (R-Bloomington) fall Youth Advisory Council event.

HAHS students among attendees

SPRINGFIELD—Dozens of students worked together in Bloomington to develop legislation they hope can improve the state. The effort was part of State Sen. Jason Barickman's (R-Bloomington) Youth Advisory Council program.

"This is a chance for students from different backgrounds, rural and urban areas, Republicans, Democrats, and independents, to all work together in the hope of improving their state," Barickman said. "The goal is to engage them in the processes of government so that they will be prepared to become active, wheth-

er as lawmakers, government professionals, or well-informed citizens."

Barickman's Youth Advisory Council brought dozens of students from across the 53rd Senate District to Bloomington to learn about government and try their hand at crafting legislation.

After hearing from local and statewide business and government leaders, students worked in groups to propose a variety of ideas for new legislation, from changing how college tuition is set to enacting term limits.

Students then worked through a series of debates and votes on the various plans, until ultimately deciding on a proposal to change the state organ donor system. Their proposal would change the organ donor system from automatically excluding donors unless they opt-in, to a system that automatically includes residents unless they choose to opt-out. The students hoped the idea would help save lives.

"We finally found something that we all had common ground on, and we found the pros and the cons, and then we figured out how to make our legislation," said Hoopeston High School student Mason Vorick. "I think it will help me learn to work with people better, it will help me learn to adapt to people's thought processes."

In the spring, the members of Barickman's Youth Advisory Council will visit the state Capitol during the legislative session to conduct a mock committee hearing on their proposal. "It's always interesting to see what issues the students will choose to address with their proposals, and it's amazing to hear them passionately debate what is important to them," said Barickman.

This is also a great opportunity for lawmakers such as myself to learn about the issues that our younger constituents are interested in. I look forward to seeing how they have honed their arguments and ideas for our meeting at the Capitol this spring."

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Orange you happy?

Hoopeston Area Schools hosted a Business After Hours event Wednesday to introduce the community to The Happiness Advantage/Orange Frog, a positive psychology program in which employees are being trained and which officials hope will spread to the community. Top, Supt. Suzzette Hesser talks about the Orange Frog as members of the Orange Team listen. Below, those attending use their phones to search for a picture of what makes them happy. The group then shared the pictures with each other.

From the Blotter

Buy the governorship

I agree with the reader who suggested the governor's election be put up for auction with the highest bidder being awarded the office.

My recommendation is that first, each political party set up their own candidates with an account and solicit funds to determine who raises the most money and will represent their party in the "election." All money collected becomes the property of the party.

Next, the state will set up and control an account in the name of each candidate, accepting funds from anyone choosing to contribute. The people will thus have a choice of candidates as they can contribute and raise money for that individual.

After a kick-off date, sixty days will be allowed for contributions. The totals in each account will be disclosed weekly so that everyone can determine who needs additional funds to come out on top. At the end of sixty days the winner will be announced based on the largest amount in their account.

All funds contributed to all candidates becomes state money that can be used to cure a few of the state's ills rather than all going to benefit the advertising media.

This can be beneficial in many ways as it directs contributions to solve some of the states financial

Briefly

Last day for coloring pictures

Tuesday is the last day for pictures to be turned in for the Hoopeston Police Department's annual coloring contest. Pictures may be picked up and returned to the police station. One prize will be awarded in each age category: five and younger; six-eight; nine-11; and 12-13. The contest is sponsored by the officers and dispatchers.

Military addresses sought

Hoopeston American Legion Auxiliary is planning to send Christmas cards to active duty service members. Anyone with the address of a service member is asked to send it to Hoopeston American Legion, Attn: Linda, P.O. Box 423, Hoopeston IL 60942. Deadline is December 8.

Weather

Partly sunny today. High 35. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 26. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 41 low 27.

woes. Large savings to each municipality and county can be realized as the traditional ballot casting is replaced by money in the mail and via wire.

Marty Parsons
Hoopeston

From the Blotter

Two Urbana men were arrested after police stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation at 6:08 p.m. Sunday at Fifth Ave. and Maple.

The driver, Michael Murray, 30, was charged with driving while license suspended and was released on a notice to appear in Vermilion County traffic court.

A passenger, Jerry Harper, 31, was charged with possession of cannabis with intent to deliver and was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

Classifieds

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HELP WANTED

Full time office receptionist. Must be able to multi-task, work great with public and MUST have great follow-up skills. Send resume to Box A, c/o Just the Facts, P. O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942.

Openings available for construction workers. Concrete experience would be helpful. Apply in person at Silver Brothers Construction Co., 105 E. Washington St., Hoopeston.

VFW is looking for a experienced bartender for weekend shift Saturdays 10-5 and Sundays 11-5, every weekend. Serious applicants only apply

Part-time CNA, 2nd & 3rd Shift, every other weekend off, please no phone inquiries, apply in person at Autumn Fields Adult Community, 325 E Orange St, Hoopeston IL 60942

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