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# CORNTAGIOUS NEWS

**Wednesday**  
**February 25, 2026**



Weather  
Forecast

Wed  
39° 27°

Thu  
36° 25°

Fri  
49° 27°



Aiden Bell went to Wrestle at IHSA State Finals  
Aiden Bell delivered an outstanding performance this past Saturday at the IHSA State Finals, earning 5th place. Representing Hoopeston, Bell showed exactly what hard work and dedication can produce. Aiden is a Milford student; however, he wrestles for Hoopeston.

Throughout the tournament, he demonstrated patience, control, and determination, approaching each match with strength and confidence. His performance is a proud moment for Hoopeston and a testament to the talent and character of this young athlete.

Way to go Cornjerker Wrestling this is a major achievement for Aiden and all of Hoopeston.



Here is a short summary from February 19, 2026 Board of Education Meeting for Hoopeston Area School District #11. You can read the full agenda on the website for the school district. The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2026 at 6pm.

The Hoopeston Area Community Unit School District #11 Board of Education approved a variety of personnel, student activity, and operational items during its recent meeting.

**Personnel Actions Approved** - Several employment and resignation items were approved by the board. Charley Kietzman was hired as RtI (Response to Intervention) Teacher at Hoopeston Area High School, effective February 4, 2026. Shannon Anderson was approved for employment as Office Secretary at Maple Elementary School, effective August 3, 2026.

The board also accepted multiple resignations, including Felipe Martinez as Assistant Football Coach at Hoopeston Area High School, effective January 16, 2026, and the irrevocable resignation of Julie Kietzman as a school bus driver for Hoopeston Area CUSD #11, effective February 17, 2026.

**Student Council Trip Approved** - The board approved an overnight trip for Hoopeston Area Middle School (HAMS) Student Council members to Springfield, Illinois, to attend the 67th Annual State Convention for the Illinois Association of Junior High Student Councils. The trip is scheduled for April 17-18, 2026.

**Purchases and Agreements** - The board approved a stipend memorandum of understanding (MOU) as presented. A resolution was also approved to sell unneeded marching band drums and cases.

In additional district purchases, the board approved a quote from School Health totaling \$13,853.69 for the purchase of nine AED units and three carrying cases. Board members also approved the purchase of a used 71-passenger school bus from Central States Bus Sales for \$12,500. The board approved payment of \$15,600.90 to Architectural Expressions for electrical service design, a Health/Life Safety survey, and design work for the district's auxiliary gymnasium.

## CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Celebrate Recovery - Sustainable Recovery  
Thursdays at 6<sup>pm</sup>

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## From The Blotter

**Theft of Utility Services** - Date/Time: 2/20/2026 @ 1:15 p.m. Location: 600 Blk of McCracken Ave. Arrested: Kevin Lambert (M) (39) of Hoopeston **Details:** HPD Officers responded to the area at the request of the Hoopeston Water Department. After an investigation HPD located Mr. Lambert. Mr. Lambert was arrested and brought to HPD for processing then was later released with an NTA for Vermilion County Court.

**Failure to Display Front License Plate, Loud Exhaust** - Date/Time: 2/20/2026 @ 3:40 p.m. Location: 400 Blk of Dixie Hwy. Arrested: Thad Finnell (M) (33) of Hoopeston **Details:** HPD Officers conducted a traffic stop at the above location. Mr. Finnell was issued NTAs for Vermilion County Court then he was released from the scene.

**Domestic Battery** - Time: 6:45pm Location: 300 blk N Market Arrested: Beandre Rounds (M) (41) of Hoopeston **Details:** HPD Officers responded to a call at the above location. Following an investigation, Mr. Rounds was arrested for the above charge, processed at the Hoopeston Police Department, then later transported to the Danville Public Safety Building to await arraignment.

Visit our website for the more Blotter.

## What's Happening Around Town

Feb 28<sup>th</sup>- Hoopeston Area Women Making a Difference Meeting 6PM

Feb 28<sup>th</sup>- Fraud Prevention BINGO - 1pm @ Hoopeston Library

Feb 28<sup>th</sup>- Craft & Vendor Show - Paxton - The Cadillac 9am

Mar 1<sup>st</sup>- Tour The Fischer - 11am 1pm & 3pm

Mar 2<sup>nd</sup>- Read Across America - Boxcar Books

Mar 5<sup>th</sup>- Poetry Night - Boxcar Books & Vinyl 6PM

Mar 5<sup>th</sup>- Poetry Club - Milford Library 1pm

Mar 6<sup>st</sup>- Seniors vs Staff Basketball Game 6:30

Mar 6<sup>st</sup>- Catlin Crozier - Live Music @ 112 7pm

Mar 7<sup>th</sup>- Circus of Bubbles - Fischer Theatre

Mar 7<sup>th</sup>- Owen Kanp - Country Singer - Exit 210 Saloon

Mar 14<sup>h</sup>- Barstool Golf 2pm Tee-off Time

Mar 17<sup>h</sup>- Election Day

Mar 20<sup>th</sup>- Illinois Ranch Horse Show - Gordville



### Rossville Fire Dept.

Pancakes, Sausage,  
Biscuits & Gravy Breakfast  
Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>,  
at 7am  
to 11am



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Breakfast Buffet  
Sat - 7-11am & Sun. 7-Noon

**Lunch Specials - Dinner Specials**

M-T 11am - 1:30pm	M-T 4:30pm - 8:00pm
F-S 11am - 1:30pm	F-S 4:30pm - 8:30pm

**Monday:** Meatloaf, Taco Salad or Spaghetti  
**Tuesday:** Chicken Pot Pie, Speedway Burger and Chicken or Beef & Noodles  
**Wednesday:** Ribeye Sandwich, or Pork Chops  
**Thursday:** Swiss Steak or Popcorn Shrimp  
**Friday:** Cod Dinner, Ribeye Steak Dinner or Ribs  
**Saturday:** Prime Rib, Ribeye Steak Dinner or Ribs  
**Sunday Lunch 11- 1:00 pm**

719 W Elm, Hoopeston 217-283-6505

## Obituaries



**James "Russell" Boils**, 90, of Hoopeston, IL, passed away at 1:45 P.M. Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at home. He was born on November 17, 1935, in Albany, KY, the son of William Chester and Cynthia Mae (Huckleby) Boils. He married Loretta Darlene Lane on June 16, 1962, in Watseka, IL. She preceded him in death on November 23, 2023. He was also preceded in death by his parents; his daughter, Melody Boils; five sisters, Creola Madison, Geneva Franklin, Mildred Weger, Juanita Lane, and Rena Boils; and two brothers, Otis and Jess Boils. He is survived by one sister, Roxie Page; three granddaughters, April Jones, Lacey Castillo, and Katie Houser; seven great-grandchildren, Adasyn and Bricyn Jones and Cohen; Alisyn, Maggie, and Kamryn Castillo; and Anasyn Bell; one great-great-grandson, Kru Compton; and several nieces and nephews.

Russell worked at Essex Wire and later worked for the City of Hoopeston Street and Alley Department for over 21 years. He enjoyed spending time outdoors mowing his lawn, gardening, and hunting. He also enjoyed hanging out in his garage with his friends and tinkering. Russell especially enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren. Per his wishes, he will be cremated and no services will be held.

Please visit [www.anderson-funeral-home.com](http://www.anderson-funeral-home.com) to view Russell's eternal tribute page and to send the family condolences. Anderson Funeral Home in Hoopeston is handling the arrangements.

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217-495-2053

Pro Tip: If you ever get locked out of your house, talk to your lock Calmly, Because communication is the Key.





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JIM DAVIS 2-19

**CORNTAGIOUS NEWS**

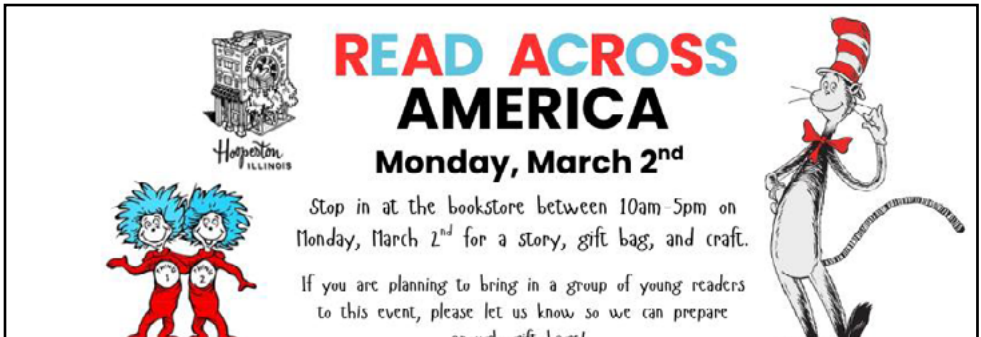


**More Blotter Information**

**Aggravated Battery, Theft (Under \$500) - Date/Time Report:** 02/19/2026@11:02pm  
**Date/Time Arrest:** 02/20/2026@12:50am  
**Location:** 500 blk of East Young  
**Arrested:** Jason Fairchild (M) (48) of Hoopeston  
**Details:** HPD officers were contacted about a battery that had occurred. After an investigation, officers located Mr. Fairchild and arrested him on the above charges. He was taken to HPD for processing and was later transported to the PSB in Danville to await arraignment.

**Burglary, Retail Theft (Under \$300.00), Driving while License Revoked, Possession of Meth < 5gms, Possession of Paraphernalia - Date/Time/Location of Offense:** 02/19/2026@10:00pm, 912 S Dixie (Caseys)  
**Date of Arrest:** 02/20/2026  
**Arrested:** Ryan Nosler (M) (30) of Hoopeston  
**Details:** HPD Officers responded to Caseys for the report of retail theft which led the arrest of Mr. Nosler. He was processed at the Hoopeston Police Department for the above charges, issued an NTA for Vermilion Co. traffic court, then later transported to the Danville Public Safety Building to await arraignment.

**Traffic Accident - Time:** 11:55am  
**Location:** Kirby Foods Parking Lot, 1030 W Chestnut St.  
**Unit#1:** 2005 Saturn Vue, Driven by Cody Shadley of Hoopeston  
**Unit#2:** 2017 Ford Taurus, Driven by Michael Turner of Hoopeston  
**Details:** Unit#2, traveling west bound in the parking lot, was struck in the rear passenger side by Unit#1. A passenger of Unit#2 was transferred to Hoopeston Regional Hospital for medical evaluation, no citations were issued, and both units were insured.



Start your day with a Corntagious News coffee mug! Call Amy at 217-772-1014 to get yours today.



Remember to read to your children. Reading at a young age is important for their growth and development.



# Ron Knuth's 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration

Join us on Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
From 1<sup>pm</sup> to 4<sup>pm</sup> at La Casa Del Sol's  
Banquet Room to help wish  
Ron a Happy Birthday.

*Happy Birthday*

