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www.justthefacts.net

Phone/Fax:
(217) 283-9348

Email:
publish@justthefacts.net

Artistic Repertory Theatre to present 'The Cemetery Club'

Hoopeston Artistic Repertory Theatre will present "The Cemetery Club" as dessert theatre at The Academy's second floor theatre space, 203 E. Main St., this weekend.

Performances will be at 7 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday.

The delightful, gently comedy centers around three women who have been friends for more than 20 years. Widows all, for the past several years, their lives have revolved around their monthly trip to the cemetery to visit their husbands' graves and playing canasta on Friday nights. Lucille just wants to have fun, Ida is sweet tempered and ready to begin a new life. Doris lives for the cemetery trips and cannot let go of the past.

Enter Sam the butcher. Lucille wants Sam, who is attracted to Ida. Doris sees change in the air and doesn't want to accept it. Lucille and Doris plot to ruin Ida's romance. They are guilt-stricken when this almost break's Ida's heart.

After attending their friend, Selma's, wedding, the three friends come back to Ida's house to continue their party. There they are able to let their hair down and open up their hearts to each other and to themselves.



Photo submitted
From left, Scott Oyer of Rankin, Patricia Eisenberg of Rossville, and Julie Stump, Kristi Hudson and Sarah Miller, of Hoopeston, are astounded by Lucille's makeover as they all get ready to go to their friend, Selma's wedding, in a scene from "The Cemetery Club," to be presented this weekend by Artistic Repertory Theatre.

"The Cemetery Club" shows the value of long term friendships, new romance and the importance of being true to oneself and living our own precious lives. It is funny, sweet-tempered and moving, an evening of pure pleasure that will make audience goers glad they went to the theatre.

Reservations are required. Tickets are \$10 and include dessert and show. Doors open 30 minutes before performance for dessert. To reserve seats, call the box office at (217) 283-6553.

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DACC to offer Middle College for area students with barriers to high school completion

DANVILLE—Failure to complete high school has been called the "Million Dollar Mistake." It costs the individual \$600,000 in lost lifetime earnings, but it costs the community \$400,000 in increased social service and health care costs.

We all know kids who are struggling in school, not because they aren't capable but because they have barriers to success. If their learning style, home situation, or life choices endanger their ability to complete high school, it is in the community's best interest to help overcome them.

Middle College at DACC offers a unique and flexible enrichment program to encourage high school graduation for Vermilion county students in need of individualized attention and support. With partial funding from the Vermilion Healthcare Foundation, Middle College was developed by the Regional Superintendent, Vermilion County Superintendents, Vermilion Vocational Education Delivery System (VVEDS), Vermilion Advantage, and DACC to improve high school graduation rates in Vermilion County. The home high schools will be responsible for tuition and fee expenses for each student they enroll in the program. DACC will provide any books necessary for their courses.

Middle College at DACC is for juniors and seniors, with a history of academic success, who have met

barriers to high school completion. Students participate in a common core course each semester, along with additional courses that meet their individual needs. Middle College courses carry dual credit, meaning students receive both high school and college credit for the classes they choose.

The common core courses will be project, team-based classes utilizing technology that focus on career development, computer skills, personal responsibility and ethics, and consumer economics. The remaining general education or elective courses will come from college offerings. Paid internships may be available to qualified participants.

Courses may be taken on campus or online, but students are required to be involved in a minimum of five hours of learning activities each school day. Applicants must provide their own reliable transportation to and from campus and any applicable intern sites.

Twenty-five students will initially be selected for this enrichment program based on a recommendation by their high school and a completed application packet. Selection criteria will be rigorous. Students with a history of severe disciplinary problems will not be accepted. Parents or students who are interested in participating in the program should contact their high school guidance counselors.

Obituaries

LAWSON - John Wesley Lawson, 68, of Port Alexander, Alaska, died at 4:15 p.m. Saturday, March 21, 2009, at home. Cremation rites will be accorded. Grave-side service will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday at Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to Carle Auxiliary Guest House, 602 W. Church St., Urbana, IL

Police News



Christopher C. James, 24, of Watseka, was arrested at 3:23 p.m. Sunday in the 800 block of South Dixie Hwy., while police were investigating another incident. Wanted on a Cass County, Mo., warrant, he was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await extradition.

61801. Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston, was in charge of arrangements.

WALLEN - Betty L. Wallen, 80, of Hoopeston, died at 9:37 a.m. Sunday, March 22, 2009, at home. Grave-side service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Rossville Cemetery, Rossville. Memorials are suggested to American Cancer Society. Brown-Alkire Funeral Home, Hoopeston is in charge of arrangements.

Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today and tonight. High 59, low 44. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 53, low 38.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

Applications for enrollment are due to DACC no later than 5 p.m., Friday, April 17, 2009. Applications are available from area high school guidance counselors or by calling Laura Williams, DACC Director of Grants & Planning, at 217-443-8776.

Anyone interested in additional information about the program should contact the DACC office of Instruction at 217-443-8770.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

FOR RENT: Hoopeston-Newer Adult complex. 2 bedroom 1 bath. Full basement. Washing machine, refrigerator, stove. Walk to stores. Quiet surroundings. Immediate occupancy. \$475 + deposit, references required. No pets. 217-260-2546.

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Area Community Unit School District #11 is seeking applications for a Bus Driver/Mechanic. Must have or be willing to acquire appropriate license. Applications are available in the Superintendent's Office, 615 E. Orange St., Hoopeston IL. Application deadline is Friday, April 3.

HOUSES FOR RENT

East Orange, Hoopeston. 2 BR, garage. No pets. \$475/mo + security deposit. (217) 304-3477

2 bedroom house for rent in on McNeil. Stove and Fridge furnished, no pets. \$425 per month. Deposit and References required. Call 217-304-6547 for application.

2 bedroom house for rent in Rossville. Very nice, new paint, high efficiency furnace, great location. No pets, No Smoking. \$450 per month. Deposit and References required. Call 217-304-6547 for application.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1991 Chevy S-10 5 speed. 117,000 miles. Good condition. \$1,200. Call (217) 304-0817

1989 Chevy pickup. V-8, 350 1/2 ton. 2 wheel drive. 170,000 miles. New gas tank, new paint. American Racing rims, 3 inch hood cal. Can be seen at 526 W. Orange, Hoopeston. Call (217) 497-5151

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