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Lourdine Florek, owner

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

www.justthefacts.net

Request to clean property turns into enforcement debate

A request from a resident to have an owner clean up property turned into a discussion on how ordinances should be enforced.

Resident Ollie Oakley, who was at the September 6 Hoopeston City Council meeting to complain about property near his home, was at Tuesday night's meeting about the same issue.

Alderswoman Susan Comstock said she went to the property in question at Chestnut and Sixth, and said problems were being corrected. "They've complied as far as they've been told," she said.

Oakley complained about a 12' privet hedge, calling it an eyesore. and read the city's derelict vehicles ordinance, which states unlicensed vehicles have to be under a hard cover, not tarps or similar covers. He said a motor home, camper and two-wheeled vehicle are in the back yard, in violation of the ordinance.

Comstock responded that the only way anyone could know about the vehicles is to peek through openings in the fence.

"That don't make no difference," Oakley said, about how he viewed the vehicles. "I'm not going to give up on this."

Comstock said the issue could "open a can of worms" as other people are violating other ordinances, such as living in campers and raising chickens.

However, Alderman Bill Goodwine said that while some violations may not be noticed, those called to the city's attention by citizens should be dealt with.

Alderman Brandon Hamilton said everyone should help compliance officer John Holt find violations and suggested Comstock "pass that information on to Mr. Holt."

City attorney Scott Perkins said the council should meet with Holt and the dog catcher to discuss enforce-

ment, saying there should not be "spot enforcement."

Comstock said it seems some residents are singled out for violations, saying the property owners in question were cited at least twice in two weeks.

In unrelated business, the council:

Heard from Hamilton, fire committee chairman, that the department is looking to purchase two pieces of equipment with accrued funds.

Heard from Mayor Bill Crusinberry that Motor Fuel funds cannot be used to repair roads at Floral Hill Cemetery. "Come budget time, we're going to have to dig a little deeper," he said. "Some really need to be fixed."

*Brooke Judy and Gordon Allen
have registered for dishes,
silverware, glasses, placemats
and other things.*

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Obituaries

ERVIN - Raymond Eugene "Zeke" Ervin, 76, of Rossville, died at 1:35 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011, at home. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Rossville United Methodist Church. Burial will be in Rossville Cemetery with military rites by Rossville American Legion. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Friday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to Hoopeston Regional Health Center, 701 W. Orange St., Hoopeston IL 60942.

KIFER - Paul N. Kifer, 74, of Hoopeston, died at 8:15 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011, at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Memorial service will be at noon Friday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Visitation will be 11 a.m.-noon Friday at the funeral

home. Cremation will be accorded; there will be no burial.

Weather



Partly sunny today. High 66. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 46. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 64, low 45.

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

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HOOPESTON: 516 W. Lincoln. Fri., 1-6 p.m., Sat 8-4. Winter clothes, home décor, computer desk, fish tank w/stand, frames, old books, Christmas items & much more!

ROSSVILLE: 504 Holmes. Sat. 7-? Only. Many miscellaneous items. No clothes. Follow signs on E. Attica.