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Thursday, April 21, 2016

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

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Lourdine Florek, owner

# Man pleads building rehabilitation case to Hoopeston council

A Hoopeston native who has appeared in Hoopeston City Court about the condition of a building he owns on Tuesday night pleaded his case to the Hoopeston City Council.

Robert Ferrell, owns the structure at 402 E. Main. The former gas station is dilapidated and the former Hoopeston resident who know lives in Lafayette, has been rehabilitating it to use as an office for his electrician business, Totally Electric.

Ferrell told the council he has appeared in court about a dozen times regarding the progress - or lack of progress - in his effort to bring the building close to its historical accuracy.

Because the structure is on substandard size lot, Ferrell said he was told that if he removed the structure, he could not rebuilt. Also, he said he needed to keep 75 percent of the freestanding walls for qualify as historical restoration.

Ferrell said he already pleaded guilty to a nuisance charge and paid a fine. In late 2015, between working and being ill, he had two months where no progress was made, but this year has been better and refurbishing has moved ahead, he said.

Ferrell alleged that while compliance officer John Holt was satisfied with Ferrell's latest efforts, a hearing officer was not and placed Ferrell under an order of abatement with a \$100-per-day fine.

"I want the building looking like it's been there all its life," Ferrell told the council, adding the \$100-per-day fine "made me a little nervous" about continuing his work.

"I've been a Cornjerker all my life," Ferrell said, pulling a 1978 Hoopeston-East Lynn letter jacket from a backpack and putting it on. "I'm going to stay here."

Wanting to make the council aware of his situation,



Robert Ferrell, a former Hoopeston resident, addressed the Hoopeston City Council Tuesday night.

Ferrell said he hopes once his legal issues are resolved, he can apply for a façade grant for the building.

In other business:

• Ald. Bill Goodwine said Paul Offutt, co-owner Autumn Fields, is purchasing it outright. The council unanimously approved a resolution allowing Mayor Bill Crusinberry to sign a TIF redevelopment agreement

See BUILDING on other side

Tune in at 5 p.m. tonightHoopeston Happenings
Larry Maynard
Hoopeston Area High School Principal
on WHPO!

Here's what's showing at the

Little Lorraine

# **The Revenant**

Fri., **7 p.m.**, Sat. **4 & 7 p.m.** Sun. **2 & 4:30 p.m.** 

Minimum donation \$5/adults, \$2/children under 16

Don't forget the Dippin Dots!

Proceeds to Save the Lorraine Theatre Foundation



# Olympic Hardware

516 N. Dixie Hwy., Hoopeston (217) 283-5186 Open Sundays



## **Obituaries**

**FINLEY** - Ellen Elizabeth Forney Finley, 92, of Roscoe, died Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2015, at NorthPointe Terrace Assisted Living, Roscoe. Visitation will be 1 p.m. until the 2 p.m. memorial service Saturday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will follow in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston.

**HUSTED** - Helen L. (Wilson) Husted, 95, of Armstrong, died at 10:49 a.m. Monday, April 18, 2016, at home. Private family service will be held at Blurton Funeral Home, Potomac. Burial will be in Partlow Cemetery, Armstrong.



# Banking on lunch

Customers and others attend a luncheon at First Farmers Bank and Trust on Monday at the bank's main office. The event marked the one year anniversary since First Farmers took ownership of the financial institution, which formerly had been Community Bank.

# -Briefly

#### Breast cancer group to meet

The April meeting of Hoopeston Breast Cancer Support Group will be at 16 p.m. Thursday, April 21 at The Pit Stop at Fast Lanes. The group is open to all women who have or have had breast cancer. For more information, call Pat Foster, (815) 984-4040.

#### Birthday card shower

Barbara Egnew will celebrate her 106th birthday on April 27 and would enjoy hearing from friends. Cards and letters may be sent to her c/o Heritage Health, 423 N. Dixie Hwy., Hoopeston IL 60942.

# **Hydrant flushing**

Rossville fire hydrants will be flushed on Thursdays, weather permitting.

#### College for Kids brochures available

College for Kids 2016 brochures are now available at Honeywell, Maple, John Greer and Hoopeston Area Middle School, along with The Sewing Boutique, Treasured Roots Flower Shop, Mr. B's/Global Fashions, Chrysler of Hoopeston, Crown Ford, Rossville Grade School and DACC Higher Learning Center.

### **Hoopeston alley cleanup**

Hoopeston alley cleanup will begin May 2, weather

# **Building** continued from other side

with Offutt. The agreement will expire in 2024...

- Ald. Carl Ankenbrand that the fire department will test hydrants Monday evening.
- Ald. Lourdine Florek recommend the council approve a \$5,000 façade grant for the Lorraine Theatre. The measure was unanimously approved and will be paid from TIF funds.
- Crusinberry asked aldermen about participating a Vermilion County land bank. Outlining positives, he said there would be no cost to Hoopeston to join or get out and that joining would give the city a seat on the board that will make decisions.. The issue was referred to the finance committee for a recommendation.
- The parks department is accepting bids on a 1992 dump truck.

# **New Books at the Library**

#### **Fiction**

Truthwitch by Susan Dennard Always Watching by Lynette Eason (inspirational) Shoot by Loren D. Estleman (mystery) She's Not There by Joy Fielding

Find Her by Lisa Gardner (regular and large print/mystery)

# Weather

Chance of showers today, tonight. High 72, low 50. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 63, low 41.

permitting. This is for yard waste only—grass, leaves, brush, etc. Other items, including concrete, plastic, wood, or bricks, will not be picked up.

Residents whose property is not on an alley may put piles of waste curbside for pickup.

# **Hoopeston Rock Service**

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# Classifieds

#### FREE STUFF

FREE: Small organ, plays now but needs work. Pick up in Hoopeston. Call (217) 283-6375

#### HELP WANTED

Seasonal Help Wanted, CDL helpful, but not required. Please inquire at Crop Production Services Hoopeston. 19052 St Rt 9 Hoopeston IL 60942 EOE

Mustard Seed Christian Daycare is accepting applications for a teacher qualified classroom teacher and classroom aides. Please can Nicole or Terri at 217-748-6370.

Part time bartender/waitress wanted. Flexible hours, experience preferred. Must be 21, pass background check. Apply in person at Hubbard Trail Country Club club house. No phone calls.

#### HOUSES FOR RENT

Hoopeston, S. 4th Street. Clean two bedroom home, nice basement, two car garage, refrigerator, range, washer, dryer, central AC. \$500/mo. with deposit. NO pets. Smoke free. Call 283-7568 or 217-304-0935 for application.

#### **RUMMAGE SALES**

HOOPESTON:705 S. Fifth St. Fri, 7-4, Sat., 7-1. Tiller, leaf blower, pocket knives & much misc.

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