Bertha's

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Change

By BERTHA PARSONS

Change is in the air. I can feel it, smell it and hopefully, embrace it. No matter how old I get, change never changes, it is always with me and always happening.

Just as we go from one season to the next, we must modify, replace, shift and transform. For some of us it seems a never ending change, but you know, it has helped to make me more thankful and aware of my life.

It seems the more we want to stay the same, the more we change. Would I turn back the hands of time? No. I wouldn't be 18 again for all the tea in China. However I wouldn't mind looking 18 again. Do I want to go back in time when we were as secure as we were before 9/11? To a time where adults would never dream of using their home to produce a thing called "meth"? Back

when it was not necessary for both parents to work 40 hours a week to make ends meet? Yes, I would like to go back to a softer time, where the family, Mother, Father and children ate together. Where Elvis' was the worse music played and we could eat anything without it killing us.

Presidents, mayors, tax referendums, new officials, heavy coats and gloves, homemade soups and falling leaves are reminders of change. It is a constant reminder of life. Just think how lucky you and I are, really, to live in a place that allows our living, laughing, crying and being happy.

Saturday, I had breakfast with a friend who just wanted me to spend some time with her. How awesome that in a world of rapid change, friends old and new are there and willing to hang on to us as we change. Yea! That's a good thing.

Change, it's happening and you either get in the boat and sail along or get left on the shore. So let's be thankful for the changes every day. Do what must be done to make the changes positive for each of us, our family and our future.

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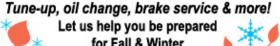
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Lourdine Florek, Owner

Hoopeston Public Library offers programs for readers, cooks

New book club to focus on NYT lists while new program for making, sharing food items

Hoopeston Public Library has two new programs for those who like to read the latest books and those who like to cook.

For those who like to read the latest best sellers, then hear what others think about them. HPL is launching "NYT Night," a monthly book club for men and women which will meet in the evening and feature book titles from the New York Times Best Seller Lists.

An introductory gathering for the new group will be



Mon.: Mosticelli, cottage cheese & garlic toast Tues: Chili & grilled cheese Wed.: Crispy Chicken Salad Thurs.: Country Fried Steak, mashed potatoes, corn, roll Fri.: Ribeye Sandwich & Broccoli Cauliflower Salad Now serving Open Menu Tuesday nights! 5-8 p.m. Come in and try your luck with our LIVE VIDEO GAMING! Oct. 29 HALLOWEEN BASH with DJ Jim McBride! COSTUME CONTEST! 9-1 a.m.

held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24. The group format and suggested titles will be discussed at that time.

For more information, call library director Tricia Freeland at (217) 283-6711.

Local residents who like to try new recipes are invited to participate in a new program at Hoopeston Public Library called "Cooking the Books."

Each month, different types of cookbooks will be featured on display at the library. Patrons are invited to stop by, browse the cookbooks, and select one they would like to try. They can then make a copy of the recipe to take home.

Participants will then prepare the recipe and bring the prepared dish back to the library on a designated evening to share with others in the group.

October's theme is "Comfort Food" and several cookbooks in that theme are available now in a display near the main desk. Patrons are invited to stop by, select a recipe to prepare, then join others at the first "Cooking the Books" night at 6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 27.

For more information, call the library at 217-283-6711.

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► NEW at the VFW ★★★

Buddy Burgers served Wednesdays, 5-8 along with chicken wings Come check 'em out!

Thursday: Tacos 5-8

Friday: Fish & Tenderloins 5-8 428 W. Orange, Hoopeston

Briefly

Flag raising ceremony

Hoopeston VFW Men's Auxiliary will host a flag raising ceremony to celebrate all service branches at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16 at the post, 428 W. Orange. All past and present military veterans and their families are invited.

Police report phone scam

Hoopeston Police Department is reporting a phone scam going on in the area. Someone claiming to be from Publishers Clearing House calls asking for personal information.

Residents are warned not to give information to the caller.

Hoopeston alley cleanup

Hoopeston Street & Alley Department began alley cleanup on October 10. This is for yard waste only, such as tree limbs and grass.

Piles with plastic, lumber, landscape material, concrete or brick will not be picked up.

Breast cancer support group to walk

The Hoopeston Breast Cancer Support Group mem-

bers, family, and friends will walk in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at 10 a.m. October 15 at Meadow Brook Park, Urbana

Those interested in joining us for the walk may register or donate at www.MakingStrideswalk.org/ChampaignIL.

Donations may also be made to the Hoopeston group to benefit women in our area facing the challenge of breast

At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include:

Pumpkins still available

Pumpkins are still available this week, while supplies last, for the library's Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Stop by the main desk no later than 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12.

Decorated pumpkins should be returned beginning at 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, and no later than noon on Friday, Oct. 14.

Monday Maniacs

Monday Maniacs, for kids in grades 3-6 will be held from 3:30-4:30 on Monday, Oct. 17. This month, "Weird Spooky Science" is the theme. Participants will make something fun to take home.

New book club

Kids Read Club is a new group for kids in grades 3-6 who like to read and have fun with friends. The first meeting will be at 3-4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20. Be there to find out what it's all about!

Court Dispositions

September 8

Angela Torres, Hoopeston, pleaded not guilty to battery: trial October 6.

Cherrica Hamby, Hoopeston, failed to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, found guilty by default; sentencing October 6.

Willa Burton, Hoopeston, pleaded not guilty to battery; trial October 6.

Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 74. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 56. Tomorrow, partly sunny, then showers likely. High 73, low 47.

Donations needed

The library is seeking donations for its popular monthly Builders' Club. The group provides a fun and creative outlet for kids in grades K through 6. The emphasis has been on building with Legos, but library staff would also like to offer the opportunity to build with Lincoln Logs or Tinker Toys.

Anyone who has gently-used sets of these building materials they would like to donate to the program, may drop them off at the library at any time.



Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Knuth's Body Shop & Towing is accepting applications for auto mechanic/auto body repair help. Experience preferred, pay based on experience. Must have own tools. Phone calls accepted at 217-283-6953. Applications available at our office, 1110 S. 3rd Ave., Hoopeston

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