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Federal Courthouse to become Vermilion County property

DANVILLE—The former U.S. Federal Courthouse will get new tenants over the coming months.

The Vermilion County Board office announced Monday that the county's application for ownership for the building, at 201 N. Vermilion, was approved.

County officials were notified of the approval late Friday afternoon by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) of the U.S. National Park Service, according to a press release issued on the approval.

Title to the building is expected to be transferred within 60 days.

County ownership of the building will



Photo U.S. General Services Administration
 U.S. Federal Courthouse, Danville

Transformer malfunction causes local brownout, outages

Many Hoopeston residents were without power for hours Monday after an Ameren transformer burned.

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 9:39 a.m. Monday to the Ameren power grid station, 221 N. Market, to investigate burned wire and smoke from a transformer. No fire was found but Ameren officials were notified.

The transformer issue caused a power blink for local customers. Some experienced a temporary brownout - with power coming back on but not at full strength - and multiple Ameren customers remained without power until well into the afternoon on what was one of the hottest days of the year so far.

According to an Ameren map, outages occurred on the city's north side, from East Thompson to Young between Market and North Ninth St.; and in the area bordered by Main, Fourth St., Elm and Fourth Ave.

serve as solutions to county board Chairman Mike Marron's top priorities: "resolution to the annex/Breese problem and finding a new home for the EMA (Emergency Management Agency) department."

Eventually, every department inside the Courthouse Annex is expected to move to the Federal Courthouse Building. Bill Bucher, the county's former interim finance director, will be the project manager for the move.

Breese Tower, connected to the Courthouse Annex, has been a concern of Marron's since he became board chairman in 2014. The building has structural issues and has been vacant since 2005.

County officials thanked U.S. Rep. John Shimkus and his staff for moving the ownership application forward and provided information as the county first started working with the U.S. Emergency Management Agency and then the National Parks Service.

"I am very pleased the National Park Service approved Vermilion County's application to take over the Danville See COURTHOUSE on other side

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Briefly

Vendors sought

Women Making a Difference is looking for craft and direct sales vendors for their vendor fair to be held September 30 in Hoopeston.

Courthouse continued from other side

Federal Courthouse,” Shimkus said in a written statement. “This is a sensible solution for an unused federal building that will greatly benefit Vermilion County as well as the federal government. I would like to thank GSA, the National Park Service, and Vermilion county officials, especially county board chairman Mike Marron, for their outstanding work on this project and I look forward to sharing this space with the county offices.”

Shimkus currently has an office in the Federal Courthouse Building and will continue to do so.

The Danville U.S. Courthouse, also home to the Social Security Administration, was built in 1911 and operated as a post office until GSA purchased the building in 1988.

Designed by James Knox Taylor of the U.S. Treasury Dept., in the neo-classical revival style, its exterior wall is

Interested vendors can email requests to hoopestonwmd@yahoo.com.

Soccer camp registration underway

Registration for the Annual Chicago Fire youth soccer

camp is going on now. The camp will be held July 10-14 in Hoopeston and is open to youngsters ages 2-5 (Little Sparks); 6-14 (Community); and 15-18 (competitive).

For more information, contact Lee at lhannant@chicago-fire.com, call 708 496 6774 or visit www.youthlitesoccer.com

Obituaries

McBEATH - Inez Lorraine McBeath, 89, of Hoopeston, died at 11:45 a.m. Monday, June 12, 2017 at home. Arrangements are pending at Blurton Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

Weather

Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight, tomorrow. High today 91, low 70. tomorrow, high 89, low 66.

Classifieds

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