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Monday, June 11, 2018
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Swimming season to get late start as city pool needs repairs

Hoopeston's swimming pool will open later than anticipated after liner issues were found on the pool's north wall two weeks before usual Memorial Day opening.

Ald. Alex Houmes, parks committee chairman, said the liner pulled away from the structural wall and that both representatives of Spear Corp. and the state pool inspector advised keeping the pool closed until repairs are made.

Spear Corp. has provide service for Hoopeston's pool for many years.

The council voted 5-0 to waive bidding due to the emergency nature of the problem and approved Spear's proposal of \$22,650 to repair the 44'x4' section, with aldermen Chad Yaden, Brandon Hamilton and Ryan Anderson absent.

Houmes said Spear workers could be on site in a few days and that repairs would take about two weeks, but that could change when they remove the liner.

Before the 2019 season, other sections of the liner need to be reviewed, he added.

Ald. Carl Ankenbrand, former pool committee chairman, said the liner was installed in the 1990s.

Ald. Bill Goodwine asked whether the swim season could be extended to Labor Day, but Houmes said that might prove difficult since much of the pool staff are either students or employees at Hoopeston Area schools.

Pool pass costs and other information will be made public once the extent of the damage and repair time are firmed up.

In other business, Ald. Bill McElhaney reported on

action being taken on dilapidated buildings around town. He reported that the owner of 401 N. Market had been in compliance on the burned structure but was now out of compliance and officials are again following steps to get the owner to comply.

Issues with the property resulted in a terse back-and-forth during the public comment portion of the meeting, when Joshua Clifton, whose house is across the street from the burned house, complained about the delay in tearing the structure down.

The owner of the property had put plywood up and planned to repair and move back into the house but was told by officials that since more than 50 percent of the house burned, he could not do that. He was also told that, by ordinance, he cannot convert the garage into living quarters.

The owner is being cited to appear in Hoopeston City Court for violations, McElhaney said. "We're following the rules according to what they are," he said.

Clifton accused the city of turning a blind eye to not only ordinance violations but also his repeated calls for police action when the owner becomes physically violent against a woman alleged to be his girlfriend, and others. He said he has gone outside in an effort stop the violence and that in the future, if he is injured, he may "hold the city legally responsible for my safety."

McElhaney said the city has no recourse other than the ordinances and court appearances and that nobody wants

See POOL on other side



Jacqueline Lacy, Vermilion County State's Attorney, talks about the victim advocates program at Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting.

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From the Blotter

Tierra Kelly 22, of Rankin, was arrested after a traffic stop at 12:38 a.m. Thursday at Third Ave. and Lincoln. A passenger in the stopped vehicle, Kelly was found to be wanted on an Iroquois County warrant for theft. She was transported to the Iroquois County jail in lieu of bond.

A **24-year-old** Hoopeston man reported at 10:41 a.m. Thursday that someone damaged his property in the 400 block of North Third St.

Jessica Stipp, 36, of Hoopeston, was arrested after an accident at 6:59 p.m. Thursday in the 700 block of East Maple. Police said Stipp was eastbound in a 2006 van when she allegedly swerved into the westbound lane, striking the curb several times before stopping.

Stipp was charged with improper lane usage and driving while under the influence of alcohol and was released on notices to appear in Vermilion County traffic court.

A **set of channel lock** pliers was found Friday at the corner of Sixth Ave. and Thompson. The owner may

Obituaries

EVANS - Dale Evans, 82, of Brook, Ind., formerly of Wellington, died at 3:48 a.m. Thursday, June 7, 2018. Visitation will be 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. funeral Tuesday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will follow in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston, with military rites by Hoopeston American Legion Post #384.

Pool continued from other side

it to be “like it’s the Wild West.”
“That’s what it’s coming to,” Clifton countered.
“There isn’t a person on the council or the attorney who will say they condone it but our hands are a little bit tied,” McElhaney responded.

Clifton said the owner is “actually making a fool out of all of us” and that “the city didn’t follow their own rules.” A Chicago resident for 12 years, “They don’t put up with any of this,” he said.

“We’re doing the best we can,” McElhaney said.
“Bull crap,” Clifton shot back, adding he’ll continue to attend council meetings to complain until the issue is resolved.

“I’ll look forward to it,” McElhaney said.
In other business, the council:
● Approved, 5-0, a re-platting of the subdivision at Rtes. 1 and 9 which currently includes First Farmers Bank and Trust and Cox Memorials. Changes will al-

identify and claim them at the police station.
Jonathan S. Martin, 23, of Urbana, was arrested after police were called at 9 a.m. Saturday to the 800 block of East Seminary after a 20-year-old Hoopeston alleged she had been punched.

Briefly

At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include:

Summer Reading Program kicks off this week with the theme “Reading Takes You Everywhere.” This week’s theme is “Around the World” and include:

- Program kickoff at 2 p.m. Monday with a free showing of the movie “A Wrinkle in Time.” The movie is for all ages but kids eight and younger must be accompanied by an adult.
- Around the World with Miss Barbara, 2 p.m. Thursday, for grades K-5.
- Around the World with Miss Barbara, 10:30 a.m. Friday for children ages 3-5.

Flag-burning ceremony set

Hoopeston American Legion Post 384 will hold a flag retirement ceremony on Flag Day, June 14, at 4 p.m. in the Legion parking lot. The ceremony will also include the American Legion Color Guard and Firing Squad.

low for a new FFBT facility, as well as other development, expected to include a restaurant and possibly retail stores.

- The changes were conditionally approved, pending language clarification, by Hoopeston’s planning commission on June 4.
- Heard from Jacqueline Lacy, Vermilion County state’s attorney, on her office’s victim advocate program, which received a \$90,000 grant and doubled the number of advocates from two to four. She also talked about the switch to a grand jury format to decide if criminal cases are prosecuted.
- Heard from Fire Chief Joel Bird that an Illinois Fire Safety Training Institute training session will begin at 6 p.m. Monday with practice on a propane tank burn. The hydrant at Main and Market will be used and the alley will be blocked off for the practice.
- Tabled action on a proposal for the city audit after

Police located Martin and detained him until the investigation was complete. He was charged with aggravated domestic battery and was taken to the Public Safety Building to await arraignment.
The woman refused medical treatment, police said.

Anyone wishing to dispose of worn flags may drop them off at the Legion, 502 E. Penn St. up to the day of the event.

Court Dispositions

May 3

Vance LaBaume, Hoopeston, failed to appear for general nuisance, fined \$240; status hearing June 7.

Carrie Robinson, Hoopeston, failed to appear for dog license required, found guilty by default, fined \$200; status hearing June 7.

Mary Vaughn, Hoopeston, failed to appear for general nuisance, found guilty by default, fined \$240; status hearing June 7.

Carissa Cahill, Hoopeston, failed to appear for restraint of dogs by owner or keeper, found guilty by default, fined \$200; status hearing June 7.

William Thomas, Hoopeston, found guilty of general nuisance, fined \$280; status hearing June 7.

Ald. Bill Goodwine received a couple of questions about it. A finance committee meeting will be held and a recommendation made to the council.

- Approved a request from Jason Watson for VC Power Volleyball Club to hold a street corner collection Saturday.
- Heard from Mayor Bill Crusinberry about the annual Memorial Day service at Floral Hill Cemetery and “the patriotism displayed by our residents and veterans. The spirit of community is alive and well.” He also commended cemetery employees for their efforts to get Floral Hill ready for the observance.

Weather

Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight. High 84, low 67. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms, partly cloudy late. High 86, low 63.

Classifieds

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HOOPESTON: 2 Bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Handicap Accessible. Full basement. Clean, great neighborhood. Yard w/patio. W/D hookup. Walk to stores. NON SMOKING. No pets. Text 217-260-8762. Available June 1. \$485.

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Pizza King, 111 E Main St., Hoopeston, taking applications. Please apply in person.

Farm help needed. CDL required. Ravens Farms. (217) 304-1943.

Looking for part-time help to care for elderly gentleman, prefer CNA, but will consider others. Please send resume to POB 85, East Lynn, IL 60932.

HOUSES FOR RENT

Hoopeston - So 4th Street. Very nice, clean, two bedroom home. Remodeled kitchen with carpenter built cupboards. DW, OTR, Range, Refrig, Disposal. Beautiful hardwood floor in LV Room. Full basement with washer/dryer. Central AC. Two car garage with electric garage opener. NO pets. Smoke Free. \$550/month with deposit. Call 217-283-7568 or 217-304-0935 for application.

Hoopeston - Newer Duplex, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, W/D hookup. laundry room, yard, patio. Walk to shopping. Nonsmoking. No pets. Available July 1, 2018. \$600/mo. 217-260-8762.

HOUSES FOR SALE

2 BR w/garage, 845 E. Young, \$10,000; 4 BR w/garage, 617 N. Market, \$10,000 (these need work. Also, remodeled 2 BR unfinished upstairs could be 3rd BR, w/large 2 car garage, electric door. 824 E. Seminary. \$19,000. Phone (217) 283-799-2567.

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