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**just the facts**  
 Tuesday, June 20, 1995  
 Hoopeton's only locally-owned daily news publication!  
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## Rossville trustees increase water rates to meet expenses

ROSSVILLE—A shortfall in Rossville water rates is causing those rates to be increased.

At Monday's board meeting, trustees approved an increase to \$4.10 per 1,000 gallons.

Trustee Tom Mills, chairman of the village water/sewer committee, said the village generates \$3.06 per 1,000 gallons income from water, but has expenses of \$4.10.

After researching rates in Potomac, Windsor, Westville, Georgetown and Catlin, Mills suggested the increase. "We will still be the cheapest water/sewer rate of anybody we've studied and we'll still be able to meet our costs," he said. "This should be able to stand on its own."

In unrelated business, the board will consult with its attorney about a disputed parcel of land

between the village office and property east of the office.

Trustees last month approved erecting a fence between the two properties, moving the fence line to what they considered the legal boundary.

However, Linda Van Burke, co-owner of the property, appeared at Monday's meeting and told trustees that because the property line has not been challenged, the land legally belongs to her under laws of adverse possession.

Van Burke said surveys dating back to 1980 have not been disputed by village officials "and there's nothing that can be changed."

Trustee Richard Kiser, acting as deputy mayor, disagreed, saying officials were told adverse pos-

See ROSSVILLE on other side

## New store has gifts going everywhere in hand baskets

A tisket, a tasket, a green and yellow basket.

And brown ones.

And natural ones.

They're all available at Rhonda's Baskets, 208 S. Market, Hoopeton.

Rhonda Hayslett owns the shop and creates baskets for all the traditional occasions and a few not-so-usual ones.

Traditional baskets include those for birthdays, anniversaries, Mother's Day and even Father's Day, Hayslett said.

The non-traditional kind include father-of-the-bride survival baskets, "welcome to the family" baskets for new sons-in-law and "I'm in the dog-house and I'm sorry" baskets. "I can make a basket to make them forget anything they're mad

about," Hayslett said.

Baskets can be filled with flowers and any of several items available in Hayslett's shop, ranging from exotic meats and spices to perfumed candles and gourmet coffees, teas, cookies and chocolate. Hayslett also carries a line of flavored body foams and other items for lovers' baskets.

In creating baskets, Hayslett said she prefers to use as many products made in central Illinois as possible. "When I opened, I made a commitment to that," she said. "I want people to know we have stuff here, too." For example, some baskets include Beebe Stevenson gourmet popcorn.

And she's looking for local crafters of upscale items to include in her handiwork.

See BASKETS on other side

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## **Baskets** continued from other side

Hayslett creates each basket around the person who will receive it, having the purchaser fill out a questionnaire on the recipient. Items filling the basket are based on answers to the questions, as well as the giver's ideas. "If I don't have the stuff in here, I'll go out and find it," she said.

While Hayslett's shop features many types of baskets, "gift baskets don't have to be just baskets," she said.

For example, two popular Father's Day baskets were polystyrene coolers shaped like golf and baseballs. And wicker baby buggies make good "baskets" for expectant parents. Hayslett said.

The average starting price for a basket is \$25, although "whatever they want to spend, I can do something."

She will ship baskets anywhere in the U.S. and can have most ready in an hour.

Creating beautiful baskets is something Hayslett has done only recently. She researched the idea for approximately four months, and has been learning her craft for approximately three

months.

She learned the craft by reading and attending classes, but mostly by "using my natural creativity. I guess you'd say."

Besides baskets, Hayslett also offers a calendar service, and will automatically send gifts to people on customers' lists for birthdays, anniversaries and other occasions. "They can always be a hero in their loved one's eyes," she said.

Hayslett is enjoying her new venture. "I get to get up in the morning and come in and do something I like," she said. "I look forward to getting up."

Rhonda's Baskets can be reached at (217) 283-6717.

## **Rossville** continued from other side

session did not apply to municipalities.

Mills suggested the issue be referred to the village attorney for mediation.

In other action, trustees paid 90 percent of a nearly \$62,000 bill for burying utility lines under the North Fork river. The rest will be paid at a later date.

## **In the Hospital**



### **Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital**

**June 15, 1995**

**Admitted:** none.

**Discharged:** Juan Solis, Hoopeston.

**June 16, 1995**

**Admitted:** none.

**Discharged:** Emily Deck, Rossville.

**June 17, 1995**

**Admitted:** none.

**Discharged:** none.

## **Weather**



Mostly sunny and continued hot. High in the mid 90s. Tonight, fair. Low in the upper 60s to low 70s. Tomorrow, sunny, slightly cooler. High near 90, low near 72.

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**Rossville**

- \*Ole Country Inn \*Minuteman \*Feedbag

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- \*Dixie's \*Minuteman \*Casey's \*Dairy Queen
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