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Just the Facts
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Tuesday, June 11, 1996
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

Local restaurateur shows signs of displeasure with insurer

Alit "Joe" Jusufi is unhappy with his property insurance provider and is letting everyone know it.

An Aug. 28 fire destroyed Jusufi's original Hoopeston Family Restaurant at 224 W. Penn. Jusufi reopened the restaurant earlier this year at 728 W. Penn.

Nearly 10 months after the fire, Jusufi's insurer, Milwaukee Insurance, has not paid Jusufi's claim.

Late last week, Jusufi let everyone know of his displeasure when he erected two signs at the original building reading "Milwaukee Insurance doesn't pay their claims."

"They shouldn't be allowed to do this," Jusufi said. "If they could take my premiums, they should pay my claim."

Milwaukee Insurance representatives could not be reached for comment, but local insurance agents not affiliated with the claim say the delay is caused by an

unresolved investigation into the blaze.

Investigators from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms ruled the fire arson, but said Jusufi cooperated with investigators and was not considered a suspect.

**"If they could take my premiums,
 they should pay my claim"**

**"Joe" Jusufi
 Owner**

No arrests have been made in connection with the fire, which is still under investigation, said Victor Herbert, resident agent in charge of the Springfield ATF office. Herbert would not comment on who is a suspect in the case.

A local insurance agent, who is not connected to the case and who requested anonymity, said insurance companies "don't have to prove that an individual started a fire. When arson's involved, it's like 'You prove you didn't do it. That's just the way the law is written.'"

See INSURER on other side

Indiana man nabbed locally gets 175-year prison sentence

A Rensselaer, Ind. man was sentenced last week to 175 years in prison for the August shooting deaths of his parents and grandmother in Gary, Ind.

Ronald M. Berry, was convicted last month of killing his family members.

Berry was arrested Aug. 19 in Hoopeston by local police officer Roger Beaty and Sheriff's Deputy Mary Wright.

Beaty answered a call to Jerry's IGA on Routes 1 and 9 concerning a suspicious person in the bushes. Beaty found Berry, who told Beaty he had had a motorcycle accident outside Hoopeston.

Wright was called in to help search for the

motorcycle, which was never found.

When officers searched Berry, they found a 9mm gun with laser sights in a backpack the suspect was carrying.

While Wright transported Berry to the county jail, Beaty was notified by Gary police that Berry was wanted as a suspect in the slayings.

While Gary police suspected Berry, local officers finding the gun helped seal his conviction.

The judge who sentenced Berry said that although he could not impose the death penalty, he wanted Berry to serve a long sentence.

Berry is not eligible for parole under the sentence.

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Court dispositions



May 16: Erika K. Brown, East Lynn, illegal possession by a minor, \$95, six months court supervision.

James J. Brown, Hoopeston, deceptive practice, \$50 restitution; \$90 fine, restitution paid.

Brad Cannon Sr., Hoopeston, failure to inoculate, \$45.

Tunis L. Clyden, Milford, four counts deceptive practice, \$198.91 restitution; \$225 total fine and restitution.

Kathy Cook, Wellington, deceptive practice, \$237.84 restitution; failed to appear, summons issued.

Alisha Doeden, Hoopeston, illegal possession by a minor, nolle pros.,

Benjamin Doeden, Hoopeston, illegal possession by a minor, \$95, six months court supervision.

Melba Ferrell, Rossville, deceptive practice and \$153.25 restitution; continued to June 20.

Anthony P. Foster, Thomasboro, parking in handicapped zone, failed to appear, summons issued.

Donald Gossett, Hoopeston, battery; pleaded not guilty, bench trial July 11.

Jillian Henady, Hoopeston, deceptive practice and \$226.55 restitution; continued to June 20.

Dennis L. Herbst, Hoopeston, deceptive practice, \$139.12 restitution; paid restitution, \$45 on each offense.

Tory J. Maul, Hoopeston, deceptive practice, \$180.41 restitution; failed to appear, summons issued.

John Rossey, Hoopeston, illegal dumping, nolle pros.

Bench trials - Eugenio Noyola, Hoopeston, battery; nolle pros (complainant did not appear.)

Dennis Lane, Hoopeston, failure to inoculate, \$45.

May 30: Clayton Allison, Rossville, possession of cannabis, warrant to be issued.


Troy Norton, Danville, possession of cannabis, \$50,

Insurer continued from other side

The agent said there is nothing Jusufi's local agency can do to help Jusufi. "The agent has done his job by submitting a claim," he said.

Jusufi said he plans to sue Milwaukee Insurance to

Police News




The Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 3:08 p.m. Monday to 309 E. McCracken for reported smoke in the house. No injuries were reported.

Obituaries


FREYMILLER - Edward M. Freymiller, 69, of Hoopeston, died at 3 a.m. Sunday, June 9, 1996, at home. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Holiday Hills Free Methodist Church, 1700 N. Bowman Ave., Danville. Private burial will be Wednesday in Potomac. Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at the Wolfe Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

Weather



Mostly cloudy today with a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. High in the mid 70s. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low in the upper 50s. Tomorrow, scattered showers. High near 78, low near

In the Hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

June 5, 1996

Admitted: Ila Thrasher, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Ruth Highfill, Hoopeston

June 6, 1996

Admitted: none.

Discharged: Birdell Schwartz and Carol Hoskins, Hoopeston.

June 7, 1996

Admitted: none.

Discharged: none.

June 9, 1996

Admitted: none.

Discharged: none.

June 10, 1996

Admitted: John Cottingham, Hoopeston.

Discharged: none.

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