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the facts

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Mayoral hopeful criticizes city attorney land deal, mayor

Mayoral hopeful David Borders on Friday criticized incumbent Mayor Bob Ault and city attorney Jim Spiros over a land deal Spiros made.

In a written statement, Borders reiterated the history of Hoopeston Foods's start-up in Hoopeston, including the council's decision to create a special, one-time revolving loan of \$100,000 to the company.

By ordinance, the maximum amount given to a company under the revolving loan is \$50,000.

Borders also criticized the city's decision to purchase land containing lagoons from the company and linked the city's actions to the purchase of adjoining land made by Spiros, questioning whether city-made improvements would make the land "prime for retail development."

Spiros denied Bordes' accusations, calling the charges "veiled accusations and innuendo."

Phone:

(217) 283-9348

In a written statement, he said the real estate transactions have been "a matter of public record for over one year."

Spiros countercharged that if the accusations were true, Borders supporter attorney Dick Doyle, who attended Friday's press conference, would have reported his concerns to the state's attorney or Illinois Attorney General's office. "In fact, he'd be oblicated to report it to the attorney's disciplinary commission," Spiros said.

"The attempts of Mr. Borders and Mr. Dovle are ingenuous, at best," Spiros said. "This is what we've come to expect from Dick Doyle - sleazy politics."

Briefly -

Music Booster winners

Winners in the Hoopeston Area Music Booster calendar drawing are: March 31, Terry Burhrmester, Hoopeston; April 1, Cari Hamilton, Hoopeston; April 2, Phil Tulep, Milford; April 3, Mark Ridl, Hoopeston; April 4, Rebecca Johnson, Hoopeston.

Kindergarten pre-registration

Kindergarten pre-registration will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 8 at Maple Grade School, 500 S. Fourth St.

Parents should bring children's birth certificates, shot records and social security numbers.

The pre-registration is for parents only.

Multi Agency van, activity schedule

This week's schedule for the Hoopeston Multi Agency senior van is: Monday, Hoopeston shuttle; Tuesday, Champaign ; Wednesday, Danville; Thursday, Hoopeston shuttle; Friday, Danville.

To make reservations or for more information, call the Multi Agency at (217) 283-5544.

Activities at the center include: Monday, ladies bridge, noon; Thursday, men's coffee, 9:30 a.m., men's euchre, 12:30 p.m.; Friday, unemployed discount program, 1-3 p.m.

Computer lab open to public

The Hoopeston Area High School computer lab will be open to the public tonight.

The lab will be open in two shifts, from 6-7:30 p.m. and 7:30-9 p.m. for anyone who wants to surf the Internet or has other computer needs.

If turnout for the second session is light, those from the first session may stay through the second.

City council meeting

The Hoopeston city council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the municipal building.

The meeting is open to the public.

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Rossville

*Ole Country Inn *Minuteman *Feedbag Milford

> *Dixie's *Minuteman *Casey's Wellington

Incumbent wants to lead Hoopeston into next century

Citing a record that includes new business in the city and a balanced budget, Mayor Bob Ault is running for a third term as the city's leader.

Ault, 63, counts completion of several projects as accomplishments, including the new municipal building, and the city's ability to provide services without a tax increase.

He was also instrumental in securing grants for the housing rehabilitation and the southwest sanitary sewer expansion projects and has been instrumental in the current sewer plant uprgrade and additional housing built in the city.

Ault said if re-elected, he will continue not only to look for new businesses, but work with existing companies to keep them here. "That's a very important issue for me," he said.

Additionally, Ault said, he would welcome small businesses to the community. "I'll take 10, or six, that hire 15 to 20 people or even 10 to 15 people," he said.

Other areas of concentration will the the downtown business area, getting funding for the second phase of the sewer plant upgrade and repairing city streets.

Ault said candidates must be careful about making promises that are too expensive to fulfill. "We can do anything - if we have the money," he said.

Challenger David Borders declined to be interviewed. In aldermanic races, incumbents Mark Drollinger, Ward 1; Mike Eckersley, Ward 2; and Bill Goodwine, Ward 4, are running unopposed.

The Ward 3 race among incumbent Drew Allen and challengers Cliff Witty and Jeff Keith, was profiled in Friday's Just the Facts.

Also running unopposed are city clerk candidate Chalmers Flint and treasurer Vicki Johnson.



Letter to the Editor



Alderman disagrees with candidate's story

After reading mayoral candidate David Borders' comments in the March 25 Chronicle. I felt a need to tell some facts.

Mr. Borders stated that Mayor Alt took it upon himself to make the calls about the street sweeper. If he recalls, I asked the mayor to make this call. The reason was, he has the experience and the professionalism to negotiate on such an expensive piece of equipment and to report back to me, as he has in the past. This then gets passed on to the committee for approval or rejection. Had it been someone I did not feel was qualified or articulate enough, I would have made the calls myself.

I also recall civic improvement meetings when Mr. Borders asked Mayor Ault to make calls for him for the purchase of the new city sign (at Route 1 and Main).

During the last street and alley meeting, there were no objections by anvone on the committee for Mayor Ault to negotiate this deal, which actually saved the city \$4,000 and got a much-needed piece

of equipment with a new engine.

Mr. Borders rightfully agreed to purchase the sweeper along with the rest of the council, without a bidding process.

I realize this is a hard-fought campaign, but this should not get in the way of the truth.

> Respectfully, **Mark Drollinger** Ward 1 Alderman

Street & Alley Committee Chairman

Misrepresentation made in hall rental Editor:

Due to a misrepresentation, we unintentionally rented out our meeting room for a "mayoral committee meeting" which was actually a political press conference.

It is our policy not to become involved in matters of this nature. We apologize for any ill feelings this may have caused.

> **Denise Bray** Kankakee Federal Savings Bank

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Two for one not a good deal when it comes to running city

It would appear that those supporting David Borders for mayor are actually supporting two people.

Borders seems to have developed two selves: Borders the alderman and Borders the candidate. The actions of the two are as distinct as Jekyll and Hyde.

For example, Borders the candidate says that if elected, he will have meetings open to the public and media, but Borders the alderman held a press conference Friday that was open only to selected media.

Borders the candidate says he will eliminate the purchase of items which have not gone out for bids, but Borders the alderman voted in favor of purchasing a street sweeper on which bids were not sought.

Borders the candidate sees Hoopeston's odor as a problem, but Borders the alderman complains that the city is spending money to eliminate the odor.

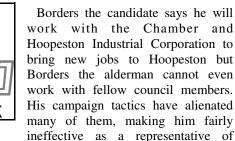
Borders the candidate plans to hire one person (a city manager) to run the city. Borders the alderman complains that one person (Mayor Ault) is running the city.

Borders the candidate says he is opposed to the landfill, but Borders the alderman has no problem accepting campaign help from CARE leadership who worked out and OK'd the landfill compromise.

Borders the candidate (in 1995) opposed tax breaks as incentives for businesses to locate in Hoopeston, calling them "giveaways." Borders the alderman has changed that tune.

While Borders the candidate says he wants new business, Borders the alderman has done nothing but complain about Hoopeston's newest industry, Hoopeston Foods.

While Candidate Borders appears to want new business, Alderman Borders has questioned the city's purchase of the Hoopeston Foods lagoons and paying the electric bill generated when the city treats Hoopeston Foods waste, but has said nothing about the income generated by the city from treating that waste.



either his ward or this city.

Borders the candidate complains about last year's Thompson Avenue repair project, saying Bob Ault didn't oversee it well enough. Borders the alderman, a member of the street and alley committee, approved the project and, obviously, didn't oversee it either.

Borders the candidate wants to be seen as a responsible leader. Yet Alderman Borders denied any knowledge when a campaign worker used tactics that were questionable at best to get signatures for Borders' nominating petition.

(That campaign worker seems to have a dual personality, too, because that person now blames Mayor Ault for the city's decision to loan National Microsystems \$300,000 but did not publicly voice concerns about the company when employed there and accepting paychecks from Microsystems.)

Candidate Borders wants people to believe he can handle any situation if he is elected mayor. Alderman Borders refused to debate the incumbent, saying the debate scenario was not his best forum because he doesn't think well on his feet.

Candidate Borders would have us think he's a morally high-minded leader who can run on his achievements, but Alderman Borders has show us that he is capable of half-truths and misrepresentations and is able to sling mud with the best of them.

Considering that Borders has shown two sides to himself, we, as voters must ask ourselves if he is Borders the candidate, backed primarily by residents concerned about Hoopeston or if he is Borders the alderman, a pawn in someone else's game.

We have to ask ourselves if, in this case, two for



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Police News



Man hospitalized after stabbing

A Hoopeston man was treated for stab wounds and two men were arrested following a fight at 1:41 a.m. Sunday.

Jason A. Funk, 517 E. Thompson, was treated and released from Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital, following the incident at 526 E. Thompson.

Arrested were Ramon D. Villalobos, 18, 10 Indiana St., Hoopeston; Brian E. Gay, 18, 203 W. English, Danville; and Michael Allen Gay, 19, 2221 Murray Clark Road, Danville.

Funk told police that, besides stabbing him multiple times, the three men damaged his 1986 Chevrolet van and slashed tires on the vehicle.

Police said the men left the area in a tan late model car which was later found at the Danville WalMart. Danville police impounded the vehicle and took the men to the Public Safety Building to await questioning by Hoopeston police.

The men were charged with three counts of aggravated battery, unlawful use of a weapon and criminal damage to auto (over \$300).

Additionally, police said Michael Gay is wanted in Vermillion County, Indiana on a fraud charge.

The men are being held at the Public Safety Building awaiting a hearing.

In other police news,

A white Datsun, registered to Richard McDonnell of Sheldon, was towed Thursday from the 700 block of West Main.

Joan Moser reported Thursday that someone cut the phone wires outside of her home at 621 S. Market.

Joseph Martinez, 19, 309 N. Eighth Ave., was arrested at 9:30 a.m. Thursday on 15 counts of criminal sexual abuse.

Police said Martinez sexually abused an underage girl between late December 1996 until March 22.

Martinez was released on \$100 bond.

Sam Terrell, 750 E. Main, reported Friday that three tool boxes with tools were missing from his home since March 26.

The Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 6:02 p.m. Friday to Hoopeston Nursing Home for a fire alarm.

Obituaries

ANDERSON - Samantha Jo Anderson, 16 months, died at 5 p.m. Friday, March 28, 1997, at St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria. She was the daughter of Victoria L. Slichemyer and Michael V. Anderson, both of Hoopeston. Graveside funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be one hour before services at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home.

INMAN - Ruby P. Inman, 86, formerly of Hoopesto, died at 11:25 p.m. Friday, March 28, 1997, at Danville Care Center, Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Brown-Alkire Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to the Westside Church of the Nazarene, Hoopeston.

Court dispositions



March 20: Patrick Clingenpeel, Hoopeston, paid \$95 in full.

John Crusie, Milford, paid \$95 in full.

Milton W. Irvin Jr., Hoopeston, failure to yield, pleaded guilty; \$95 total.

William McElhaney, Hoopeston, stop sign violation, pleaded not guilty; trial April 3.

Kayla Wilson, East Lynn, paid \$60 of \$95 due.

Weather



Partly cloudy today. High in the low 50s. Tonight, clearing. Low in the low 30s. Tomorrow, sunny. High near 58, low near 35.

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