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Wednesday, May 20, 1998
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P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 **www.justthefacts.**

Hoopeston man requests OK for local paintball field

Area residents may work off aggressions at a paintball field if a local man gets his way.

At Tuesday's Hoopeston city council meeting, resident Tom Gustine requested a special use permit to create a paintball field adjoining M&N Pallet on Route 9.

Gustine said police told him paintball guns, which use carbon dioxide to expel a dime-sized ball of paint, are considered firearms and cannot be fired within the city without the special permission.

Some aldermen questioned the safety of the guns, but Gustine said a special field would make paintballing safer for local youth. "They're playing it now," he said. "They're not wearing goggles and they're going to get hurt."

If allowed, Gustine's field would extend north 100

yards from the first barracks on the property. The field would be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays and one or two nights weekly, until 8:30 or 9 p.m.

While Gustine plans to speak with residents in the area, the site is zoned commercial, he said, adding passing cars will be in no danger of being hit by paintballs.

Alderman Drew Allen said a waiver may not be necessary since paintballs travel at less than 300 feet per second.

Gustine said some paintball gun owners use higher-pressured carbon dioxide canisters to increase range but that such tanks will not be allowed at the field.

City attorney Jim Spiros, who did not attend the meeting, will be asked to investigate Gustine's request.

Rossville trustees hear subdivision proposal, set clean-up

ROSSVILLE—A 16-home subdivision is getting enthusiastic support - but no financial help yet - from village officials.

The subdivision was proposed by builder Roger Hoskins, who asked officials for help with sewer, gas and water lines and roads, said Mayor Merv Smith.

Hoskins is proposing the subdivision north of the village on the west side of Route 1, on property owned by Thelbert Faulkner.

Although Hoskins hoped to begin construction this spring, Smith said officials want more information, including hard costs, on the project.

Smith said installation of sewer lines and roads was estimated at more than \$30,000, with no preliminary figures on putting in gas and water lines.

Homes to be built on the site will range in price from

\$80,000 to \$120,000, Smith said.

In other action:

□the annual village clean up days will be May 28-29. Collection will be limited to one pick up truck load per household and no grass, brush, leaves, construction debris, concrete, paint or solvents will be allowed, Smith said.

□learned temporary crossing repairs have not been done on Attica St. Officials are looking into options.

□approved a sidewalk program. The program, which has \$15,000 budgeted, will begin in the business district, then expand to residential areas. Residents who participate must pay 10 percent of replacement costs.

□tabled a request from trustee William Galloway to change meeting day, which conflicts with Rossville-

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Letter to the Editor



Graduation participation questioned

Dear Editor:

As a graduating senior, I feel that the commencement ceremony at Hoopeston Area High School is well planned and very formal. This is a ceremony that all graduates should be proud to take part in. It is an honor to walk down the aisle after all the hard work we, as graduates, have put toward our high school education.

Speaking on behalf of my peers, high school has been the root of our memories together. The best and worst times of our lives have taken place in high school. We have been there for each other throughout these times. I can't help but feel that my classmates have had a big impact on my life. We have shared classes, stories in the halls and other profound memories. Graduation will go down as one of the many memories we have shared

together since kindergarten.

I have been to school on time almost every day for the past for years, excluding sickness, doctor's appointments, etc. I have never gone over on the allotted seven day excused absences. Therefore, I feel I have earned the right to walk down the aisle with my classmates at graduation.

The question that comes to my mind is this: should a student be allowed to walk down the aisle with his/her classmates...even if he/she has not met the required attendance policy, should he/she be allowed to pass? The other graduates have earned the right to say that they have earned the grades and put in the time required to earn the credits to pass. There are many others who may or may not graduate. They are as little as one credit short of graduating, but this is not even offered to them.

They do not get to walk down the aisle with their family, friends or peers after all these years together. An exception can be made as long as you have the courage to override the system.

My classmates and I have shared all of these things. We have been in class every day and have become familiar with each other. What do you say to the student who was never there? Should someone who has barely shown up for school be allowed to walk down the aisle without earning that right? These "graduates" will be forever in our memories of high school graduation, but they are not in any of our other high school memories. How much more corrupt does our school system have to become before something is done to change it?

Ashlee Garman
HAHS Senior

★ Police News ★

Two people were injured in an accident at 12:18 p.m. Monday at North Market and East McCracken.

Police said Heather M. Holland, 17, of 327 E. McCracken, and an unidentified passenger in her 1985 Dodge, were taken to Hoopeston Community Memorial

Hospital after the accident.

Police said Holland was southbound in the 300 block of McCracken when she failed to stop at the intersection and struck a 1991 Chevrolet pickup truck driven by Timothy Lane, 617 E. Chestnut.

Holland was ticketed for a stop sign violation.

Steve Bridgman, 730 E. Main, reported Tuesday that someone flattened the driver's side front tire of his 1978 Chevrolet. A picture was also drawn on the hood of the vehicle.

★ Obituaries ★

HATFIELD - Robert G. Hatfield, 76, of East Lynn, died at 6:43 a.m. Monday, May 18, 1998, at his home. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in East Lynn Cemetery. Visitation was 5-8 p.m. Tuesday and will be held one hour before services at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the East Lynn United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 146, East Lynn, IL 60932 or a charity of the donor's choice.

SMITH - Mary Lou Smith, 64, of Hoopeston, died at 9:43 p.m. Monday, May 18, 1998, at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to the United Methodist Church, 403 E. Main St., Hoopeston, IL 60942.

★ In the Hospital ★

Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
May 18, 1998

Admitted: none.
Discharged: Marjorie Fink.

★ Weather ★

Partly sunny with a chance of showers today and tomorrow. Highs 86, lows 60.

For current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston Weather Line** at (217) 283-6221.

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hold orthopedic clinics the 2nd and 4th
Thursday of every month at Hoopeston
Community Memorial Hospital. Treatment will
be provided by James Berkes PA-C. For more
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(217) 443-4567