



## City offered Weldon Building; seeks possible uses for it

Hoopeston officials will be handed the keys to a historic building if they can find ways to pay for its upkeep. Capstone Bank will donate the building to the city, said Mayor Chalmers Flint at Monday's Neighborhood Watch meeting.

Tenants in the building, including the Vermilion County Health Department and Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce, generate about \$20,000 annually but expenses for the building, such as heating and air conditioning, cost about \$40,000 yearly, he said.

The city will only be able to accept the donation if more revenue can be generated to pay for maintenance. To do that, Flint is asking for ideas from residents of things that might rent space in the building.

For example, Flint would like to see the Chamber and Hoopeston Historical Society on the ground floor and a National Sweetheart Museum on the second floor. "We've never capitalized on (the National Sweetheart Pageant) at all," he said.

If ways of making the building financially selfsufficient are not found, "my guess is we probably won't accept it," Flint said.

Ideas may be called in to Flint's office at (217) 283-5320.

Karaoke 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday No cover charge! BJ's Pump Bar & Package Liquor Store 1023 W. Main, Hoopeston (217) 283-5700 Another building may be getting a new owner. The former Stokely building is being considered by a small business packaging material company, Flint said. If they decide to purchase the building, they would start small. "They would probably only employ 25 people but you know what - that would tickle me to death," he said.

Flint also announced that Berg Manufacturing, in the former Essex building, has traded facilities with Ralph May, owner of the former Howard Industries building in Milford.

Since taking over the Essex building, May has created and rented out office space.

The mayor addressed other topics, including:

• a grant application for a soccer field south of Scott Drive. About local 120 youngsters go to Danville to play soccer and Flint would like to see fields here to entice people to Hoopeston.

See CITY on other side

### Township hold annual meeting

A new bridge will be constructed on South Sixth Ave., it was announced at Tuesday's Grant Township Annual Meeting.

The bridge will cost \$149,000. Of that, the township will pay \$22,000, said road commissioner Jim Crouch. In other business, trustees:

• learned the road department will use soy diesel this year.

• said they approved a resolution supporting local troops in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

• approved the sale of surplus items during the year and all actions of the board.

• set the next annual meeting for 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, 2004.

See the beautiful Easter lilys and how festive they are decorated! Flowers ¥ Gifts by Molly Culbert 702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days

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choice of a glass of wine for \$15. Also available: prime rib. pork chops, chicken breast. catfish, grilled halibut and grilled tilapia. Dinner served 5:30-9 p.m. Reservations requested but not required. (217) 748-6521

13937E 3680 N. Rd., Hoopeston



#### **Fundraiser planned**

A fundraiser will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday at the Hoopeston VFW to raise money to send a Hoopeston athlete to Hawaii.

Aaron Fell has been selected by DACC coach John Spezia to participate in the "Big Kamehameha" basketball tournament June 24-July 1.

The event will include an auction, hog roast, 50/50 drawings, music by Smoke River Band and an appearance by WHPO's Larry Baughn.

#### *City* continued from other side

• a possible senior park south of the McFerren Park annex. The city has applied for a grant that would allow walking paths, benches and landscaping to make a quiet walking area.

• the difficulty in getting a motel in Hoopeston. "We can't really entice anyone," Flint said, adding chain motels want to build motels with at least 45 units. Getting a motel on the corner of Rtes. 1 and 9 has been Flint's dream but "that looks like an uphill battle at this point."

# **Global Fashions**

a large store located next to L&M downtown Hoopeston \*Kids Easter goodie bags just \$1 each

\*Car jar fresheners just \$1.50 \*Jelly Jar Candles (spring scents) \$5.75 each \* Mary Englebreit stickers 50¢/pack **★ Kids Toys!** 



Admission is \$5. All donations will go toward Fell's trip. To donate items to the auction, call (217) 283-6706 or 283-5153.

#### **Donations needed**

Teen REACH of Vermilion County will have a car wash/bake sale from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 26 at K-Mart in Danville. Donations are needed of old towels, car wash soap, tire cleaner, scrub brushes, sponges and buckets.

#### Call Susan Redden, 283-5544 for more information. **Tiny Tots**

"Chickens & Ducks" is the theme of Tiny Tots at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room. Tiny Tots is open to children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

#### Visioning

The Hoopeston Visioning group will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday in the nursing home community room. Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### **Kindergarten pre-registration**

Hoopeston Area will hold kindergarten preregistration at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 15 at Maple School. Children who will be five year old on or before Sept. 1 are eligible for kindergarten.

Pre-registration is for parents only. Parents are asked

### Weather

Partly sunny today. High 60. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 35. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 62, low 42. For current weather conditions, call the Hoopeston Weather Line at (217) 283-6221.



to bring their child's immunization records and birth certificate.



2nd & 4th Sundays of each month 203 E. Thompson, Rossville 7 a.m.-noon \$4.50 all-you-can-eat Serving Belgian waffles, eggs, home fries, omelets. ham. bacon. sausage. coffee. juice

# Classifieds

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Having out of town visitors? We have two brand new 1 bedroom furnished apartments available by the night or by the week. TV. phone, utilities included. (217) 283-7996.

#### **APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

2 bedroom, 1 bath in Hoopeston. Appliances furnished. \$400/ mo., \$400 security deposit. Available immediately. Call (815) 432-6081

#### AUCTIONS

Thinking of having an auction? Go to www.jonwitvoetauctioneer.com or call (217) 748-6289!

#### HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Coin Laundry seeks 2 people for part-time help. 1 position is 20-30 hours/week. Second position 10-14 hours/ week. Apply in person at 209 S. First Ave., Hoopeston.

#### **RUMMAGE SALES**

412 W. Maple, Hoopeston. Saturday, 8:30-? Furniture, clothes 50¢/bag, children's clothing, misc.

851 E. Seminary, Hoopeston Friday, April 11, Saturday, April 12, 7-? Name brand clothing: girls 18 mos.-6, boys newborn & 2T, ladies various sizes, name brand maternity, Harley Davidson men's: microwave, baby furniture, CDs, bedding,

1006 W. Main, Hoopeston. Saturday, 8-? Moving sale. Lots of kids clothes, stereo, misc.

