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Hoopeston city officials approve regulations for Floral Hill

New and existing rules will start being enforced at Floral Hill Cemetery.

At Monday's Hoopeston City Council meeting, Alderman John Haughee, chairman of the city cemetery committee, reviewed the regulations, which will soon be posted at the cemetery entrance and at cemetery shop. Rules include:

- No planting of trees, shrubs or bushes on graves.
- Graves shall not be bordered with crushed stone or metal edging
- Flowers may be in hanging baskets or urns but full covering of gravesites is prohibited.

- No glass decorations will be allowed
- Flowers are not to be stuck in the ground
- No unlicensed vehicles or all-terrain vehicles allowed on cemetery property.
- Footstones will be allowed but must be flush with the ground.
- Benches are allowed only as part of a memorial
- Dogs in the cemetery must follow the city leash law
- Vaults or grave liners are required for all burials.
- Winter decorations must be removed by the first Monday and March. Spring/summer decorations will not be

See CITY on other side

Hoopeston couple honored as 'Friends of Public Education'

A Hoopeston couple was honored for their volunteer efforts to the Hoopeston Area school district.

Russ and Linda Leigh were the 2005 recipients of the Friends of Public Education award, given by the Hoopeston Education Association in conjunction with the Illinois Education Association. The award is given annually to people who have made significant contributions to the local school district.

The Leighs were selected based on their long history of volunteering to PTO, Music Boosters and Sports Boosters, along with the donation of their offices in the past as a meeting place for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. In addition, the Leighs spearheaded the local school referendum effort last fall and were instrumental in the success of the referendum, ensuring

See FRIENDS on other side



Photo contributed

Russ and Linda Leigh, left, were named "Friends of Public Education" last week. Also pictured is Ed Rosenthal, National Education Association director.

New Arrivals!

Lots of perennials, potted, easy to plant ~ \$3.98

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City continued from other side

allowed until after May 1 and must be removed by the third Monday in September. New winter decorations will be allowed after Nov. 1.

In related business, the council heard from Jack Miller, owner of Water Features by Jack Miller, about the city's decision to cut maintenance of the cemetery pond from the budget.

At the April 19 meeting, the council approved a budget eliminating an estimated cost of \$8,000-\$9,000 to maintain the pond.

"That's a state-of-the-art system," said Miller, who revamped the pond a few years ago. "There's no way it should cost that." Installing the pond cost under \$10,000, he said.

Another customer, who has a similar pond, pays only \$200 annually for maintenance, he added.

Haughee said the city purchased a large net to cover the pond to keep out leaves, then had to purchase large inner tubes to hold the net in place.

Mayor Chalmers Flint suggested Miller meet with the cemetery committee to see if the pond can be kept. "We'd like to preserve that," he said.

Haughee added that anyone who wishes to donate time to help maintain the pond is welcome. "We'd certainly appreciate volunteers," he said.

In unrelated action, the council:

Friends continued from other side

ing that programs will be maintained in the local schools.

The Hoopeston Education Association nominated the couple "for being unselfish in their service to their schools, their church and their community and for being the kind of people who give unstintingly of their time to make things better for the children of the Hoopeston area, the Hoopeston Education Association is proud to honor Russ and Linda Leigh as 2005 IEA Friends of Public Education."

The couple received the honor at the Illinois Education Association Regions 8 and 9 Friends and Advocates Banquet on April 20 in Champaign. They, along with other volunteers, teachers, principals and board members from throughout the regions, were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the children of East Central Illinois.

• approved paying approximately \$1,500 to help the city of Skokie fight a class action suit about the telecommunications tax. The suit was filed against municipalities which have imposed the tax. Hoopeston will receive approximately \$140,000 this year from the tax, said Alderman Bill Goodwine.

• amended a resolution regarding a lawsuit filed by Hoopeston Foods, Inc., against former mayor Bob Ault and then-city clerk Chalmers Flint. Citing a conflict of interest, the resolution calls for Flint and Ault to have separate legal counsel for the matter. The city will then pay reasonable legal fees to be approved in advance by the city council. The city will maintain responsibility for judgments which may be issued in the suit.

• heard from Mayor Chalmers Flint about the need for a committee to draw up a proposed covenant for a new

residential development east of Euclid. He appointed Goodwine, along with aldermen Brandon Hamilton and Ed Lotz to the committee. Whether the committee will develop a covenant will depend on the annexation agreement which may limit the council's restrictions to those of zoning issues only, Goodwine said.

• heard from Alderman Kevin Davis about water/sewer projects planned for the coming year. The projects include replacing a water main next to Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital and Nursing Home. The existing main has broken twice in the last two years, Davis said. Other work is expected to include two water main projects on the north side and a storm sewer project in Greater Hoopeston, he said, asking that he be allowed to meet with whomever mayor-elect Bill DeWitt appoints as water/sewer chairman.



Police News



A **69-year-old** Hoopeston man reported Monday that his flip phone was lost or stolen.

A **pair of ladies'** black framed glasses was found Monday at the Lorraine Theatre. The owner may identify and claim them at the police station.

A **16-year-old** Hoopeston boy reported Monday that speakers and a speaker box were taken from his vehicle

which was parked at his home in the 700 block of East Honeywell.

A **22-year-old** Hoopeston woman reported Monday that someone dented her front door and wrote on it with black marker. The damage occurred in the 800 block of East Wyman.

A **25-year-old** Hoopeston man reported Monday that eggs had been thrown at his car Friday, cracking the windshield and damaging the finish of his vehicle in several places.

Briefly

Senior Citizen Concert

Hoopeston Area High School Jazz Band and Show Choir will perform for senior citizens at 9:15 a.m. Monday, May 2 in the middle school gym. Coffee and rolls will be served in the cafeteria beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Neighborhood Watch

Todd Lee, regional manager of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity will speak at the May 2 Hoopeston Neighborhood Watch meeting. The meeting will be at 6 p.m. at Country Terrace.

Weather



Mostly cloudy today and tonight. High 56, low 38. Tomorrow, chance of rain. High 57, low 42.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

Classifieds

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