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Thursday, June 9, 2005
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 **www.justthefacts.net**

Leading Hoopeston takes flexibility, persistence: mayor

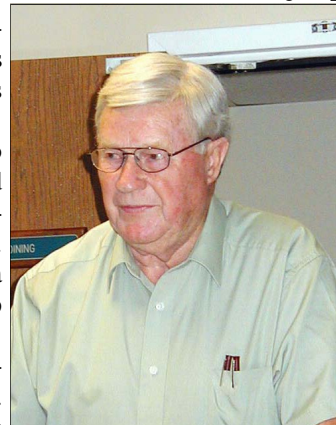
Charting a course for Hoopeston's future is difficult and requires flexibility, according to Hoopeston's new mayor.

"Really a difficult thing to address in plans for Hoopeston," said Mayor Bill DeWitt at Monday's Hoopeston Neighborhood Watch meeting. "You might plan something and in a week's time, you might be barking up the wrong tree."

The most pressing issue facing Hoopeston is the need for jobs. "It's urgently necessary for us in this community to do something for employment. We have the buildings we have the work force. All we need is the business."

There has been some interest in the former FMC building and the Willdon Building and one company is considering both, he said. If that opportunity comes through, existing tenants in the Willdon Building will have to be relocated.

Though buildings are being toured, DeWitt said more opportunities must be sought out. "We



DeWITT

can't sit back and wait for opportunities to come to us," he said. "We've got to tell them about what we have and what we can do. We can't just talk - we have to follow it up with action."

Things Hoopeston can talk about include two new businesses that will open soon.

The first, Margarita's, is a Mexican restaurant that will open Friday in the former cable office across from American National Can.

The second, Old Country Store and Things, is expected to open next month next to Pizza King, in the former Wayne's World building.

Other things are going on that DeWitt said he is not at liberty to discuss. "It's very difficult for me to be working on things that I'm excited about and not be able to share it with you," he told the crowd.

One thing that must change, DeWitt said, is the attitude of people towards Hoopeston. "We need to look for the good things," he said. "You cannot

This might be the
best day
of the planting season!
Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert
 702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days

Fish Fry


5-8 p.m.



Friday
American Legion
 502 E. Penn, Hoopeston


Open House
Saturday, June 11 12-3 p.m.
424 E. Main St., Hoopeston
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Thursday
is \$1 beer
night at
V.F.W.
 Corner of Fourth Ave. & Orange, Hoopeston



B I N G O

every Thursday
7 p.m.
Hoopeston American Legion
502 E. Penn



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4 bags, \$10
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Call (217)



Market makeover

A little rain doesn't stop employees of Ribbe Trucking, Bismarck, from resurfacing North Market St. last Thursday. The work was a joint project between Hoopeston and Grant Township.

Summer Reading Club to make summertime superheroes

The Hoopeston Public Library will turn area youngsters into "Superheroes Powered by Reading" during the Summer Reading Club.

Activities begin at 2 p.m. Monday with a Mel-likin Puppet show. Everyone is invited to the event.

listen

~~See LEADING on other side~~

Leading continued from other side

to all the negative things all the time. You have to look at the positive."

Working diligently since he was sworn in last month, DeWitt said he needs help from citizens in drawing new businesses to Hoopeston. "I need your help and hopefully, wit that and the good Lord looking down on things saying 'those folks need

Other activities planned through July 8 include "The Power in You and Your Body" by John Klaber at 2 p.m. Tuesday; a tour of the fire station, Christmas in June and July and a carnival.

Summer Reading Club is open to children from pre-kindergarten through sixth grades. Third through sixth grade will meet at 2 p.m. Tuesdays. Thursdays at 2 p.m. will be for first and second graders and pre-kindergarten and kindergarteners will meet at 10:30 a.m. Fridays.

Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 91, low 68. High Friday 88, low 69.

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

Police News



An employee of Jerry's IGA 1030 W. Chestnut, reported Tuesday that the store received a counterfeit \$10 bill.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 5:54 p.m. Tuesday in the 500 block of West Main.

Police said Travis C. Lackey, in a 1998 Dodge, slowed for a stopped vehicle and hit a 2003

Fire Calls



The Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 7:37 p.m. Tuesday to the 500 block of West Dice for a report of a wire down and pole on fire.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Rossville: 1-2 bdrs. Riverview Apartments. Completely refurbished, on-site washers & dryers. 1 bdr. \$310/mo., \$310 deposit; 2 bdr., \$360/mo., \$360 deposit. Call (217) 840-3672.

HELP WANTED

Full time, dependable outside help wanted for local grain elevator. Must be able to climb and not be afraid of heights. Apply in person at Kaufman Grain Co., in Rossville. No phone calls, please.

Personal aides/Special Education Aides for Special Needs Children beginning August 18, 2005. Applications are available at the Hoopeston Area Superintendent's Office.

HOUSES FOR RENT

Hoopeston, 3 Bdrm Brick Ranch with Carport. No Steps! Refrigerator, Range, Built in Micro, DW, Disposal, Washer, Dryer, Central AC. No Pets! Non-smoking residence. \$450/mo with deposit. Call (217) 283-5107 or 283-7568 for application.

RUMMAGE SALES

Irwin moving sale. 2 mi. south of Hoopeston. Sat., 8-? Household, antique glassware, men's & women's clothing & much, much more.

Moving sale, 715 N. Market (inside) Sat., 7:30-? Name brand clothing, table & chairs, loads of kids' toys & clothes, refrigerator, toddler bed.

716 E. Penn, Hoopeston. Sat., 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Miscellaneous from A to Z

Call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad.