

Sponsored by Hoopeston Jaycees

> Saturday, June 10

> > 7 p.m.

Gates open 5 p.m.

Sunday, June 11

2 p.m.

Gates open at noon

McFerren Park Annex

> Admission: \$8 in advance \$10 at gate

Lourdine Florek owner/publisher

# Just the Facts®

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# Museum official makes presentation to Hoopeston council

The Hoopeston City Council took a trip back in time, thanks to the director of a museum dedicated to the 1960s.

George Pedersen, director of the 60's Museum, hopes to get the Willdon Building as the first part of a larger museum complex.

A group of people interested in the 1960s formed a group in 1989, "dedicated to everything that happened in the '60s," Pedersen said: women's lib, the space race, civil rights, the transistor and the space race, among

Pedersen hopes to use the Willdon Building as the first leg of the museum. Once the larger portion is constructed, the Willdon would be used as the museum's corporate office, research and video work, he said.

His interest in coming to Hoopeston is two-fold, Pedersen said. First, the Willdon is a good building for the first phase of the museum and eliminates the cost of new construction. Additionally, by having an actual site for the museum, Pedersen can start soliciting funds. Many grants are tied to the group having a physical building, he added. "I'm in a Catch-22. Nobody's going to give me the money until I have (the building.)"

Eventually, the board of directors envisions domed structures on 40 acres that would house various 1960s displays covering the Vietnam War, toys, clothing, music, arts and a virtual 60s display that would allow visitors to feel as if they're part of space exploration or "sitting on the grassy knoll," he said. "We want to immerse you in history, not just show you."

A special feature would be a Vietnam Live Memorial, to "put a face to the names."

Pedersen estimated that, once completed, the museum could attract upward of 2.5 million people annually at a cost of \$20 per person.

People would come not only for the museum, which

would be the first site dedicated to the 1960s in the world, Pedersen said, but also for the architecture of the larger site, which will use concepts that will, if all goes well, make it a platinum-rated environmental building. Also, it will be F5 tornado and earthquake-proof, he said.

Funding for the project will come from grants, private and corporate donations, facility rental, endowments, admissions, loans and the sale of 60s merchandise onsite. PEZ and IBM are among the companies expressing interest in the project. A "worst-case scenario" estimate of income is \$10.5 million annually, Pedersen said.

Some residents and council members questioned whether Pedersen would build the second phase of the museum locally if he were to get the Willdon Building. Pedersen said he would and, after the meeting, said a contract between the city and board of directors could stipulate as much. To move the larger portion somewhere else would be "shooting myself in the foot," because benefactors would question why both sites were not together and could adversely affect funding.

In order for the museum to succeed, Pedersen said the community must get behind the project. "Anyone can sink the ship," he said. "If the town gets behind us on, this thing will go into orbit."

The council took no action following Pedersen's presentation.

In unrelated business, the council heard from residents angry about flooding after last week's heavy rain.

Marcia Miller, who lives in the 300 block of West Elm, said for 15 years, her home was never flooded but was in 2002, 2003 and again last week. "In 15 years, there were downpours," she said. "Something happened. It's not accommodating water like it used to," she said. "Instead of paving the parking lot and planting trees, you

See COUNCIL on other side

# Fish Fry

5-8 p.m. Friday

# **American Legion**

502 E. Penn, Hoopeston Also chicken breast & shrimp & grilled fish Includes salad or slaw, baked beans, fries, roll.

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Corner of Fourth Ave. & Orange, Hoopeston





every Thursday 7 p.m. **Hoopeston American Legion** 

502 E. Penn

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### Council continued from other side

need to inspect the sewer system."

Other residents spoke about flooding in their yards and basements and while officials were sympathetic and willing to look at solutions, the amount of water moving through the city made doing much about last week's rain virtually impossible.

Alderman Bill Crusinberry, water/sewer committee chairman, said one inch of rain on one acre of land equals 27,000 gallons of water. Water from farmland north of the city flows into Hoopeston and Crusineberry estimated as much as 135 million gallons of water could have flowed into Hoopeston after the five-inch rain.

Thompson from Schumacher down was "a raging river" after the rain, he said, adding he and Mayor Bill DeWitt are going to try to make the flooding issue a priority. However, he cautioned, fixing the problem will not be cheap. An engineer's estimate for one project is over \$1 million "and there's no guarantee it will work," he said.

In other business, the council:

• Approved a \$173,064 bid from Champaign Asphalt Co. for this year's Motor Fuel Tax road project. The bid was higher than the engineer estimate of \$162,015, said Alderman Jerry Yonkers, street/alley

committee chairman, citing the increased cost of asphalt as the reason.

A second bid of \$187,402 was received from Ribbe Trucking.

The project is to be completed by Aug. 15.

- Learned the city will receive a \$3,960 Clean Energy grant for new lighting at the McFerren Park Civic Center. Alderman Carl Ankebrand said the grant will be paid for work done from June 1, 2006 to May 31, 2007.
- Approved, in concept, signs for Rt. 1 and Main and Market denoting services offered downtown. With approval to put the signs on city property, the Illinois Department of Transportation will be contacted to get approval to place the 4'x8'signs. No action was taken on a request from business owner Rod Gaddis that the city pay the \$900 needed to have the signs made.
- Approved an ordinance regarding bed and breakfasts in the city, based on Danville's ordinance and state laws. The ordinance limits rooms to five or fewer and allows for only one formal meal - breakfast - to be served daily and limits guests to two per room.

The council had planned to vote whether to approve a conditional use for a bed and breakfast but



### **Police News**

Rebecca A. Burton, 33, of 631 E. McCracken was

arrested at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the 600 block of East McCracken. She was charged with meter service unless otherwise approved and theft after she allegedly put a different water meter on her home after hers had been shut off by the city.

Black Sheep Pub

125 S. Chicago, Rossville 748-4114

3 Year Anniversary Party Saturday, June 10 50¢ off all drinks

Lazer 'N Lights DJ/Karaoke

9 p.m.- 1 a.m. No cover charge, as usual

She was released on a notice to appear.

Police were called at 6:55 a.m. Wednesday to FMC, 103 E. Maple, after receiving a report that someone broke into the building, damaged it and stole several items.

**No tickets** or injuries were reported in an accident at 9 a.m. Wednesday at West Elm and Rt. 1. Police said Opal A. Fortin of Beaverville, in a 2000 Buick, was turning southbound onto Rt. 1 and collided with a 1990 Chevrolet driven by Michael Forshier of Hoopeston.

## Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 83. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 58. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High 80, low 61.

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

tabled it until LaShaun Price, the prospective owner, is able to review the ordinance.

• Tabled a request from Jim and Megan Collins for a \$15,000 revolving loan to open Hoopeston Stitchers, an embroidery company, until the entire council has had a chance to read the couple's proposal. If granted, the loan would be repaid over seven years at 8.5 percent, said Alderman Bill Goodwine.

The business would be located at Hooterville Junction and replaces Threadswork, which closed.

• Approved July 3 as a paid holiday for city employees and moved the first July council meeting to Wednesday, July 5.

# Classifieds

#### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Upstairs 3 BR, 1 car garage, appliances. \$400/mo., \$400 deposit. No pets. References. Downstairs 2 BR, 1 car garage, appliances. \$400/mo., \$400 deposit. No pets. References. (217) 772-1255

Rossville: 1 Riverview Apartments. Completely refurbished, onsite washers & dryers. \$310/mo., \$310 deposit. Call (217) 840-3672.

### CHILD CARE

I have two openings right now for 2yrs. or older, I do take state pay! Call 283-6855 and ask for Deb.

### HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Migrant Head Start is accepting applications for Bus Aides. Prefer Spanish speaking and must be 18 years of age. Call (815)984-3706 with questions. EOE

#### HOUSES FOR RENT

3 BR, 1.5 baths. Both baths remodeled. New carpet, new paint. \$450/mo.+ security deposit. (217) 304-2145

#### **RUMMAGE SALES**

Moving/Garage sales: Housewares, furniture, electronics, clothes, etc. Friday June 9 and Saturday, June 10 from 7am-?? At the Antioch Church and surrounding houses.

853 E. Maple, Hoopeston (alley entrance only) Sat., 8-? 2 family sale. Miscellaneous furniture, drop leaf table & chairs, Frigidaire ceramic top stove/oven, 5 pc. Leather sofa set, children-adult

419 W. Washington, Hoopeston. Large rummage Fri., 4-7 p.m., Sat., 7 a.m.-noon. Quilts, country, oak chairs, farmhouse table, LOTS! Misner

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