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Thursday, June 19, 2008

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City council approves redevelopment agreement for motel


Construction of a motel in Hoopeston took two steps forward.

At Tuesday night's meeting, the Hoopeston City Council approved a redevelopment agreement with Shailesh Patel, who plans to develop a motel on the corner of Rtes. 1 and 9.

Under the agreement, Patel will be eligible to recoup 60 percent of Tax Increment Financing-eligible costs - up to \$485,000 - over a 23-year period.

Under the TIF program, the difference between the current property tax rate on the property and the increase due to redevelopment goes into a special fund. Patel's 60 percent return will come from that fund, while Hoopeston will receive 40 percent of the increment.

A separate agreement will be drawn up to transfer ownership of the land to Patel. City attorney Paul Manion suggested putting the deed in escrow. "Our plan is we will not part with that property until that motel is



PATEL

there," he said.

Patel, of Monticello, plans to begin construction in the fall and open in spring or summer 2009.

The motel, to be called Hoopeston's Gateway Inn, will consist of 25 to 35 rooms, which will rent for \$45 to \$65

See COUNCIL on other side

Economic developer leaving to accept position in Peoria


Economic developer Shannon Ruh will leave Hoopeston in early July to take a position as an urban planner in Peoria.

Ruh came to Hoopeston about two and a half years ago as a Peace Corps Fellow for economic development, then transitioned into the economic developer, a position she has held for a year and a half.

Ruh, who attended Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting, teared up as the council voted on her resignation. "This was not an easy decision to make," she said.

Ruh's last day will be July 3. She will begin her new position on July 7. Ruh's master's degree is in planning so the new job will allow her to learn more about city planning and Geographical Information Systems (GIS), creating maps.

During Ruh's stay in Hoopeston, she has been instrumental in working on the motel development for Rtes. 1 and 9, along with the opening of several new businesses, including Papa's Restaurant, Café Delights and Action Travel. She has helped lay the groundwork for future development and improvement, including a south rail site for possible industrial development.



RUH

Plants on Sale

Packs, flats, pots

Impatiens, Wave Petunias, Proven Winners, Zonal Geranium, Ruella, Plumbago, Thryallis in 10" pots

Fuschia, Hanging Baskets

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June 21**

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Box sale in the greenhouse.

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every Thursday 7 p.m.

**Hoopeston
American Legion**

502 E. Penn

Briefly

Seeking former students

The Class of 1978 is looking for addresses for the following people for their 30th year high school reunion being held the weekend of July 4: Scott Bagley, Scott Brown, Tracey Beaver Shipman, Jodi Burhmester, Rhonda Carswell, Rhonda Collins, Anita Cleveland, Angie Horton, Judy Norris, Marsha Shoufler, Maralee Siville. Please contact Doug Bray at 217-283-6865 or dbrayfgi@yahoo.com.

Sorority seeks donations for animals

Zeta Omicron Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi is requesting donations of newspapers (black print only) and dog food

Obituaries

LAURSEN - Gladys M. (Haire) Laursen, 89, of Chesapeake, Va., formerly of Rossville, died Monday, June 9, 2008 at Chesapeake General Hospital, Chesapeake. Funeral service will be at noon Saturday at Wolfe Funeral Home, Rossville. Burial will be in Rossville Cemetery. Visitation will be 10 a.m.-noon Saturday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Council continued from other side

per night, depending on the type of room.

Patel owns the Best Western Monticello Gateway. The Hoopeston motel will not be part of the Best Western chain.

The second step announced at the meeting was that Terry Buhrmester has agreed to have a well on his property capped.

Buhrmester and other adjoining property owners were asked to cap their wells and be connected to city water so that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency would issue a No Further Remediation letter for the property where the motel is to be built.

In unrelated action, the council:

- Approved a bid from Built2Last Construction for the 50/50 sidewalk replacement program. The bid, for \$3.82 per square foot, was the only bid received.

- Approved the 50/50 paint program, allotting \$2,000 for it. Under provisions of the program, residents may be reimbursed for 50 percent of the cost of painting their homes, up to \$250. To be eligible, resi-

for the Vermilion County Animal Shelter Foundation Adoption Trailer. The Animal Shelter will be at Hoopeston's Drivin' the Dixie Days offering pets for adoption. The shelter has a "foster care for dogs" program uses



Police News



Robert R. Griffin, 37, of Hoopeston was arrested after an incident at 9:54 p.m. Monday in the 200 block of East Wyman. He was charged with unlawful acts constituting disorderly conduct on a complaint from a 19-year-old Hoopeston man who alleged Griffin advanced on his car in a threatening manner, yelling and berating him for driving down his alley at excessive speed.

Griffin was released on a notice to appear.

Tyler C. Griffin, 17 and Phil D. Bailey, 21, both of Hoopeston, along with a 14-year-old Alvin girl, were arrested after an incident at 9 p.m. Tuesday in the 200 block of East Main. They were charged with battery on a complaint from a 27-year-old Hoopeston woman who alleged the three attacked her after several instances where they drove by Hollywood Video, yelling at and threatening her.

dents must complete an application, purchase paint at Olympic Hardware or Pamida and provide the receipt for paint and before and after pictures of their homes.

Applications are available at city hall.

- Approved a \$2,000 donation for July 4 fireworks, allowing the city to have the annual display, estimated to cost \$10,000.

- Approved a \$6,950 bid from B&J Music, Danville, for a sound system in the council chambers/courtroom. The system will include a digital recording system. The bid includes equipment and installation.

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 78. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 56. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 81, low 58.

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

newsprint and dog food for the program.

Anyone wishing to help may bring donations to McFerrer Park from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. The trailer will be in the northwest corner of the park.

The men were released on notices to appear; a juvenile petition was requested for the girl.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

HOOPESTON - Newer 2 BDRM 1Bath Apt for rent. Full basement. W/D hookup. All appliances. Near shopping, nice yard. Available Now. No Pets. Non Smoking. \$475 + Deposit. 217-260-2546.

HELP WANTED

Ludlow Migrant Head Start is seeking applications for Education Coordinator, Teacher, Teacher Assistant, Cook and Bus Aides. Bilingual preferred but not required. Send resume to joanmoser@hotmail.com or P.O. Box 136, Wellington IL 60973 or fax to (815) 984-4500. Call Ludlow office, (217) 396-0213, or Wellington office, (815) 984-3706, for any questions Positions are opened until filled. EOE

HOUSES FOR RENT

Hoopeston: 637 E. Seminary. 2 BR. \$450/mo.+ deposit. References, no pets. (217) 304-3477

Country 3 BR ranch w/shop. \$500/mo., plus deposit, references. (217) 649-6817

RUMMAGE SALES

1½ miles east of Schumacher on Thompson Ave. Sat., 8-1. Huge 3 family sale. Collector items, crystals, household, desk, blinds, computer items, videos, magazines, beanies, exercise equipment, knickknacks, toys, high chair, playpen, tools, lots & lots of misc. Good, clean sale

602 S. Fourth St., Hoopeston. Fri., 4-8 p.m., Sat., 8-noon. Multi family sale. Name brand kids' clothes of all sizes, household goods, furniture, CDs, videos, car seats & much more!

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