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**Just the Facts<sup>©</sup>**  
**Thursday, July 9, 2009**  
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication  
**P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942** **www.justthefacts.net**

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## Million dollar investment planned by Silgan Containers

Silgan Containers is planning a \$1 million upgrade that will add four to six jobs to the company's payroll. Mayor Bill Crusinberry said at Tuesday night's Hoopeston City Council meeting that a new shearing machine will be installed to cut large rolls of metal, rather than precut sheets.

Two people are needed to run the shearer, which will mean two additional employees on first and second shifts, with the possibility of two for the third shift, he said.

Crusinberry said plant manager Jeff Miller told him that to accommodate the machine, a new floor must first be installed and that Silgan may build a new loading dock on the backside of its property. If the dock is built, about 60 percent of semi traffic on Main Street would be moved to the back of the factory.

If Silgan builds the dock, it will need one quarter to one third acre of the former railroad right-of-way currently owned by the city, Crusinberry said.

The investment shows the local plant will remain in Hoopeston, Crusinberry said. "A business spending \$1 million isn't going to be pulled out of Hoopeston," he said, adding Silgan is the second business to make such a large investment in Hoopeston.

Crusinberry recently announced Hoopeston Foods is upgrading equipment at a cost of about \$1 million.

In unrelated business, the council:

- Heard from Scott Strawser, Emergency Management director, that a new emergency siren was purchased for \$27,248 from Braniff Communications of Crestwood. The cost includes installation. The new siren will be placed on West Elm near McFerren Park.

- Approved transferring the Willdon Building to Tad Ballantyne, CEO of Hoopeston Foods. In return for the building, Ballantyne must construct an apartment costing not less than \$60,000, in an upper floor of the building and must agree to not remove marble from the building. If Ballantyne does not have the apartment done by December 15, the building could revert back to the city.

- Heard from Alderman Jeff Johnson, who set a street and alley committee meeting for 6:30 p.m. July 14 to review the resurfacing project and address some high point maintenance items. He requested water/sewer also attend.

- Heard from economic developer Dana Goodrum that the city will conduct an income survey to be used for a design and construction grant application for infrastructure.

See INVESTMENT on other side

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Letters to the Editor

Econ developer on Hoopeston article

I want to address the article that was released in the Southtown Star a couple of weeks ago. It was the city’s intent to launch a new marketing campaign that would be geared towards retirees in the southern Chicago area with the main content of the article discussing the low cost of living in our community and all of the great assets one can find within the community. I spent around three weeks interviewing local residents who had relocated from the Chicago area and researched our cost of living in comparison to the Chicago area. The information that I received from area residents and the research on the cost of living was outstanding!

When city attorney Paul Manion and I traveled to the Southtown Star office we had already emailed the 700 word article along with several pictures highlighting our community. These pictures included the Hoopeston Public Library, Lorraine Theatre and some others throughout the community. We were

very pleased with the article and we were sure the response would be great.

Unfortunately, after we left their office, we could not control the article that was created from that point. Were there some great pieces of that article that I was happy with? Yes. Were there some negative aspects that I think painted a picture that was not true of our community? Yes.

The overall idea was fantastic. We have a great community, with a low cost of living that would be economically sound and beneficial for retirees to move to. Our community is still constantly searching for new business development and expansion and constantly working to provide new opportunities, employment and development.

I want the community to be very aware that Hoopeston is not dying. We have many development projects that are in process and there are interested people who want to invest in our community. We have great work going on downtown with façade improvements, Main Street volunteers, community outreach and much more. We have a very dedicated community that wants to see Hoopeston grow!

I am extremely proud of the dedication and progression that I have seen from our community and I know that we will continue to move in a positive direction.


Dana Goodrum,  
Economic Development Director

Investment continued from other side

ture work. Surveys will be anonymous and may be placed in any of five drop off points throughout the city.

- Heard from Goodrum that the city should receive a No Further Remediation letter for the intersection of Rtes. 1 and 9 within 30 days. The city has been waiting for the letter so a developer may begin construction on a motel.

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 87. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 67. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 90, low 70.

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

Try something NEW

for dinner Friday

Surf & Turf

also serving kabobs: steak, chicken, mixed

BJ's Pump

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1023 W. Main, Hoopeston



Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Area School District is seeking applications for the following positions:  
Bus Driver Start date will be August 20, 2009  
Substitute Bus Drivers  
Cafeteria Start Date will be August 20, 2009  
Substitute Cafeteria Workers  
Application deadline is July 13, 2009. Applications are available in the Superintendent’s Office, 615 E. Orange, Hoopeston. Office hours are 7:30-12:00, 1:00-4:00.

HOUSES FOR RENT

Rossville: 206 Church. 2 BR, basement. \$475/mo.+ deposit. No pets. Available August. For application, call (217) 304-3477

HOUSES FOR SALE

Very nice 3 BR, 1 BA home at 842 E. Orange St. New kitchen with new appliances, new bath, carpeting & hardwood flooring, 2 1/2 car garage, full basement, new siding, windows, foundation, fenced in yard. Phone 249-6323 or 283-6323 for appointment

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RUMMAGE SALES

423 W. Elm, Hoopeston. Sat., 8-nmoon. Tools, collectibles, antique furniture, end tables, lamps, wicker rockers, bedroom outfit, twin beds, Wheelhorse lawn cart, Deere lawn sweeper and much more.

618 S. Second Ave., Hoopeston. Fri., 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Sat., 8-noon. Clothes, toys, dishes, Maytag dryer, misc.

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