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Firemen use Hoopeston Fire Department's aerial truck to cut a hole in the roof of a house fire Friday in the 1100 block of South Second Ave.

Three departments fight house fire on South Second Ave.

Hoopeston Fire Department, along with those from Rossville and Wellington, spent several hours Friday fighting a house fire in the 1100 block of South Second Ave.

Firemen were called at 7:18 a.m. to the Todd Mayberry home for a second-story blaze. After spending a good part of the morning there, Hoopeston firemen were called again at 2:20 p.m. after the fire rekindled. Family members were not home at the time of the fire. A damage estimate and cause of the fire were not immediately available.

In other calls, Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 7:20 p.m. Wednesday to a report of an activated smoke alarm. No fire was found.

Firemen were called at 5:27 p.m. Friday to a gasoline leak at Casey's General Store, 1022 W. Penn.





Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hoopeston Area CUSD #11 is seeking a qualified person to fill a vacated seat on the Board of Education. The individual must be a registered voter within the "Old Hoopeston School District." Anyone interested in being considered for this seat should submit a letter of interest to the Superintendent's Office by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 12, 2010. The board will seat the new member at the March 18, 2010 school board meeting. If you have any questions concerning candidate qualifications, please contact the Superintendent's Office at (217) 283-6668.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

302½ W. Washington, Hoopeston. 2 BR. \$325/mo.+deposit. No pets. References. (217) 304-3477

Adult/senior-2 BR, 1 bath. Stove, fridge, furniture, washer/dryer hookup. Close to shopping. \$385/mo., \$385 dep. References. (217) 772-1255

Call (217) 283-9348 or email <u>publish@justthefacts.net</u> to place your ad!

Letters to the Editor

Jobs

If our government is really serious about creating jobs for people who are unemployed and not able to find full time jobs, why don't they look in our history and see how the government handled this sort of thing in the past? During the depression, the government created jobs by hiring people to do road work and other jobs that needed to be done by the government. I did not witness this, but my dad told me many times how citizens in this area worked to improve the roads (Works Progress Administration WPA), and there is a lot written about it, if one wants to find other work the government created.

There are many things the government could put people to work doing that need to be done now. Our roads need worked on again, we need inspectors for our bridges, dams, levees, etc. We need inspectors on our import docks to make sure drugs (legal and illegal) are checked out (other imports could be inspected), we could use more air marshals, inspectors at airports to make sure hijackers and bombers are not getting aboard. We need more border patrol people to make sure illegal immigrants and drugs are not coming across the border.



Final approval

City officials were on hand when the Illinois Housing Development Authority gave final approval for funds for Prairie Meadows, an affordable workforce housing development. Pictured are, front, Jean Minick, Hoopeston housing volunteer and financial consultant Larry Pusiteri; middle, Alderwoman Susan Comstock and Niccole Clements, ICAA development coordinator; and back, Dwight Lucas, executive director of East Central Illinois Community Action Agency and Fred Whitman, ECICAA associate director of planning and community development. I am sure that you can of many more jobs that could be created, that would help the unemployed.

These jobs are not just for the recession, but to be implemented from now on. Much employment that people are laid off from isn't going to be there very soon, if ever. Since, it doesn't look like we will ever be a strong manufacturing nation again, (requiring human manpower because companies are turning to robots) that is the name of that game. We have to provide our citizens with work that can replace what they have lost. And, we can kill two birds with one stone. These jobs are needed to improve our infrastructure, homeland security and safety of our airways, borders, and imports that arrive at our ports every day.

This would be a direct way of getting the funds to the people that really need it, and they could implement one program at a time, without coming up with a 2,000 page law.

> Tom Evans Hoopeston

More on contractor registration

I really don't understand why the City of Hoopeston thinks it needs to impose this ridiculous ordinance. With today's economic woes, I find it very petty to add more hardships to probably already struggling businesses. If you haven't noticed already, it doesn't look like Hoopeston is actually flourishing. We have all these vacant buildings around town and no job opportunities. So what exactly is the draw for people to live in Hoopeston?

We are going to build a new McDonald's, okay, so what is going to happen to the old one? It will probably sit vacant like the old CVS building. Vacant buildings make for wonderful scenery, don't you think?

They are going to build another housing complex. That's nice, but were are al these people going to get jobs? I don't see an abundance of help wanted signs in Hoopeston.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today and tonight. High 36, ;low 24. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 38, low 20.

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

My point is, let's work on making Hoopeston a better place. Let's create jobs and make Hoopeston a desirable place to live in again. Remember "Live Here, Love Here, Shop Here?" Well you are making it hard to love living here!

Once again you are going after the little guys. It won't make much difference to the bigwig business, but you are socking it right to the average Joe just trying to make a living.

Let's see what else you can impose fees on. I'm sure you are cooking up some ideas. I think the residents of Hoopeston deserve a better answer than "because we do," when asked why we need this ordinance.

Why is this the "right first step for Hoopeston?" You need to start tackling the major issues that plague this town and stop trying to put more people out of work!

Angie Fenstermacher Hoopeston

Library sets St. Patrick's Day, college accessibility programs

Hoopeston Public Library will host two programs next week: one to entertain youngsters and one to help people find ways to pay for college.

The library and University of Illinois Extension— Vermilion County Unit, will sponsor St. Patrick's Fun for kids ages 5-13 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 9.

Activities will include hands-on crafts and snacks with a holiday theme.

Space is limited, so preregistration is requested. To sign up, call the library children's room, (217) 283-6711.

The second program will be held from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 10, with representatives from the Illinois Student Assistant Corp informing how to make college accessible and affordable for all Illinois students. Questions on financial aid, FAFSA and other state and federal aid will be addressed. If college has been in your dreams, come discover the secret of how to begin. Pop and pizza will be provided.

Registration is required by calling the library, 283-6711 or stop by the main desk at 110 N. Fourth St.