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 Lourdine Florek, owner
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Thursday, June 9, 2011
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Insurance employees fear safety from dilapidated building

Employees of Harris Insurance told the Hoopeston City Council Tuesday night that they fear for their safety from an abandoned building next door.

Ginger Grant and agent Katie Smith, who work at 221 S. Market, told officials that bricks continue to fall from the vacant building next door and wondered what progress has been made in resolving the issue.

Smith said concern about falling debris caused her to move out of her office and into the front of the building. Grant said falling bricks could hurt passersby or employees. "We're worried about our safety at this point," she said.

Officials have been trying to schedule a walk-through of the structure but the owner has been unwilling to set a date. If one is not set in the near future, officials plan to pursue legal action to get into the building and assess the damage.

It has been almost a year since the city took action to try to get the building repaired or demolished, Mayor Bill Crusinberry said. While the owner seemed interested in cooperating at first, that interest has since waned.

Officials are interested in getting the problem solved, preferable not at the expense of the city hav-

ing to pay demolition costs.

Grant wondered if the city would have any liability if someone is injured by falling debris but city attorney Scott Perkins said "the probability of liability is low" because officials have been working on the problem.

For safety's sake, Alderman Randy Carter suggested the insurance agency consider relocating its office until the problem is remedied.

In other business, the council:

- Approved a resolution allowing the Illinois EPA to do an assessment of the former Shell station at 301 W. Penn. There is no cost to the city.

- Approved transferring \$16,000 from landfill funds to the road/bridge fund to have the estimated \$57,000 to repair the road to the landfill. This year's city road repair project, including the landfill road, is estimated at \$103,000.

- Approved giving Hoopeston Area school district \$30,000 from Tax Increment Financing money for new windows and a security system at John Greer.

- Heard from Carter about the state's emerald ash borer problem, which has not been found in locally.

See SAFETY on other side

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 "Gas prices have gone up
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 starting at noon.
SHIP, CAPTAIN, CREW
Saturdays, starting May 22, 11 a.m.
 Open to Public-Benefits Welcome!
 Corner of Fourth Ave. & Orange, Hoopeston



Community Kids Safety Day
 Saturday, June 11
 10 a.m.-Noon
 Presentations by:
 Chad Thomas with HEMA
 Hoopeston Fire Department
 Hoopeston Ambulance Service
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 8:45-11:45 a.m.
 Ages 4 years through 6th grade
First Baptist Church
 323 E. Seminary, Hoopeston
 For more info or a ride, call
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Photo contributed

Generous students

Alderman Carl Ankenbrand accepts a \$1,500 check from Teresa Samet, Hoopeston Area Middle School Student Council president, as Devin Cartwright and Aubrey Irwin look on. The student council raised the money at its annual Christmas auction. Money will be used to repair diving boards at McFerren Park swimming pool.

Safety continued from other side.

- Learned Ameren will trim trees in the city soon.
- Learned Vermilion County Health Department will hold a meeting at 5:30 p.m. June 22 at city hall to get input on local problems that could be addressed with a brownfields grant the health department received.
- Heard from Alderman Carl Ankenbrand, parks committee chairman, that since golf carts are now registered vehicles, drivers should refrain from parking them on grass at city parks. He added that those who use park shelters for events should not leave

vehicles parked on grass, either.
 Heard from Crusinberry, who reminded residents not to mow grass clippings into the street.

Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight, tomorrow. High today 84, low 62. Tomorrow, high 83, low 69.
 For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

Obituaries

GOCKEN - Doris B. (Bruniga) Gocken, 9, of Danforth, died at 7:50 p.m. Monday, June 6, 2011, at Prairieview Lutheran Home, Danforth. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday at St. Peter Lutheran Church, Crescent City. Burial will be in St. Peter Lutheran Cemetery, Crescent City. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Thursday at Knapp Funeral Home, Watseka and one hour before service Friday at the church. Memorials are suggested to Prairieview Lutheran Home, the church or Crescent City Fire Department.

Briefly

Hydrant flushing

Hoopeston Water Department will begin flushing hydrants June 10 and each Friday through the summer, weather permitting.

Water report available

The Consumer Confidence Report (water quality) is now available at the Rossville Office.

Classifieds

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HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Public Library is accepting applications for a part time custodian position. High school diploma or equivalent is required. Applications must be submitted to the Hoopeston Public Library, 110 N. Fourth St., Hoopeston IL, no later than June 20, 2011.

HOUSES FOR RENT

3 BR, available immediately. \$450/mo., includes garage. (217) 495-0998

RUMMAGE SALES

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