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Tuesday, June 14, 2011

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

www.justthefacts.net

Health department sets public meetings for Brownfield grant

Vermilion County Health Department will hold two public meetings on the Vermilion County Brownfield assessment project in late June, and additional meetings may follow in July.

The first public meeting will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 22 at the Hoopeston City Hall, 301 West Main St. The second will be from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. June 29 at the Georgetown City Hall, 208 South Walnut St.

Representatives from Vermilion County Health Department and Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC of Champaign will be present at the meetings to give a short presentation on the county Brownfield project. Representatives will also answer questions about the project, and hope to obtain information from residents about environmentally contaminated sites in the county.

"We hope that area residents will be able to let us know about sites that may be contaminated," said Public Health Administrator Shirley Hicks. "We are counting on these meetings to help us get as complete a listing as possible about that type of site."

The goal of EPA's Brownfield revitalization program is to assess, clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields – vacant or underused properties such as old factories, gas stations, dry-cleaning businesses, or buildings with asbestos insulation or lead-based paint, that contain or potentially contain hazardous substances or contaminants.

Vermilion County was awarded a \$400,000 federal grant by the United States Environmental Protection Agency last year to locate and assess environmentally contaminated sites in the county.

Some of those sites will be tested to determine the extent of the contamination, according to Douglas

See GRANT on other side

Larkin's Barber Shop 117 E. Attica St. (on alley)

Rossville IL (217) 772-1440 Open: Tues., Wed., Thurs. Fri. 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. 7 a.m.-noon





Small Wonders Preschool is moving!

The quality preschool program that you have known for over a decade is moving to a new facility. Come see our new classroom and meet our teachers,

Chelsea Foster and Sandy Eckersley at our



Open House 5-8 p.m. June 22 at

Hoopeston First Presbyterian Church

915 E. Orange St.

Registration for the 2011-12 school year will be available. For information, please contact Emily Brown 217-772-1203.

Back buying scrap gold, sterling, watches
& old coins this Saturday in
Global Fashions
10am-2pm
No apppointment required.
Been buying same location over 3 years!
In home appointments available any day or time! Also buying vintage, antique costume jewelry
Call Shannon 217 841-3991



Musician evangelist to be at Rossville Methodist Church

Mike Rayson, musician, songwriter, evangelist and pastor will be at the Rossville United Methodist Church, 116 Maple, Rossville, on Saturday, June 18 and Sunday, June 19 to bring a message of God's love through his music and witness.

Rayson and his family are from Australia, and now make their home in Illinois. He has released a number of CDs and is a blessing to God's work. The program on Saturday is at 7 p.m. and Sunday morning's worship is at 9:30.

There is no charge, but we will receive a love offering for Rayson.

Join us for an uplifting time together praising our Lord.

Letters to the Editor

Wind tower setbacks and money in Iroquois

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on Tuesday, May 31, evidence was presented by persons on both sides of the setback issue. Those favoring 2000 ft. setbacks presented strong evidence showing that lesser setbacks will endanger and adversely affect the health, welfare, safety, and property values of all Iroquois County residents. Much of this evidence had to be based upon actual experiences of residents in other Illinois counties because there aren't any wind farms in operation in Iroquois County at the present time. Those favoring a 1500 ft. setback based their position solely on the need for money: money for themselves and money for the county. It should be noted that a number of those favoring 1500 ft. setbacks are not residents of Iroquois County and will not suffer any consequences. They want us to have a loosely worded ordinance that "welcomes' wind companies. Isn't it strange that in a time when agricultural products are priced at or near all-time highs there is a need for more money? And this in a county whose rural land is almost 100% zoned agricultural.

So one must ask the question: Is money the most important thing in life, so that in order to get it we have to sacrifice the well-being of our neighbors? Recently an ad appeared in this publication purporting that wind farms can produce this money, and that it will solve a multitude of problems. Not one word was said in the ad about protecting people; or that we must learn to live within our means and curb our appetite; or that there is a need for better management practices. If one were to look back at the history of similar money raising schemes one would see a pattern of failure. For example, weren't we told that the lottery money would be used to finance our schools from here to eternity? Weren't we told that the casinos would benefit us all? Now we are being told we need more casinos and we need wind farms. All of these schemes in the past held the hope that property taxes would stay the same or better yet be reduced. Tell me, when was the last time your property taxes were reduced? When did any of these "promises" ever come true?

I believe that while there may be a need for more

money, more importantly there is a need to learn to live within our means, a need for better management by our officials, and A NEED TO PROTECT ALL RESIDENTS OF IROQUOIS COUNTY. It is fortunate that we have some responsible county board members who recognize this and have voted for the compromise 2000 ft. setback. Please call your board members today and tell them you want responsible government action that

Obituaries

ASHCRAFT - Helen L. (Zorns) Ashcraft, 84, of Danville, formerly of Homewood, died at 4:40 p.m. Friday, June 10, 2011, at Hawthorne Inn, Danville. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Homewood Memorial Gardens, Homewood. Visitation will be 10-11 a.m. Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to American Cancer Society, 2509 S. Neil St., Champaign IL 61820.

Grant continued from other side

Toole, the Director of Environmental Health for the Vermilion County Health Department and project manager for the Brownfield project. After that, additional cleanup grants may be sought so that the sites can be returned to productive use again.

The City of Danville was recently awarded an identical \$400,000 grant to assess sites within the Danville city limits. Together, the two projects should provide a thorough overview of contaminated sites in the area, both inside the city of Danville and in smaller communities and unincorporated areas.

Toole said that the mayors of both Hoopeston and Georgetown have expressed interest in helping provide information about sites with suspected contamination, and both offered the use of their city hall buildings for the public meetings.

Weather



Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 76, low 58. Tomorrow, high 76, low 62.

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

protects the health, welfare, safety, and property values of all residents. Ask them to vote for the 2000 ft. setback at the June 14 County Board meeting. We all need to realize that everyone residing in Iroquois County will be personally affected by the wind farms. The wind farms spread like wildfire and before you realize it they will be upon you.

John Shure Buckley area resident

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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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

HOUSES FOR SALE

713 Trego Dr., Hoopeston. 3 BR ranch. 2 full baths. Approx. 1550 sq. ft. All new windows on sun porch. Most appliances stay. Shown by appointment, (217) 283-7627

LOST & FOUND

Lost female beagle. Answers to Bella. Last seen on Saturday on 000 North road, Hoopeston going west toward cemetery. Please help us find her. Call 217-283-5443. She is Jack's friend.

RUMMAGE SALES

HOOPESTON: 809 E. Penn. Thurs., 8-2, Fri., 8-noon. 2 family sale. Lots of baby and little girl clothing, sizes infant-4T; baby accessories: bedding, crib mattresses, car seats, Pack & Plays, high chair, children's toys and books; misc. household items and supplies.

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