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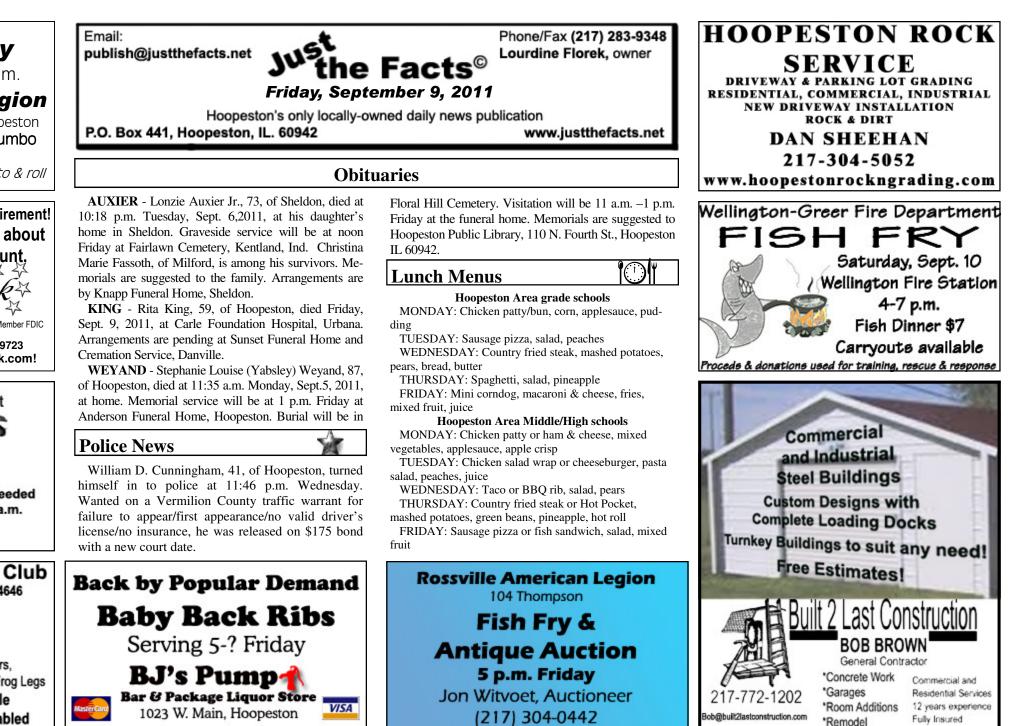
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Thursday: Swiss Steak Friday: Cod & Rib eye Friday Night League starts at 7 p.m. Teams needed Saturday: Youth League starts 10 a.m. Open Bowling 1-close Sunday: Open Bowling 12-4

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Thanks for another great festival

Congratulations to the Jaycees for another fantastic Sweetcorn Festival! The festival is such a huge undertaking and I commend the Jaycees for their volunteer work and dedication. It's hard to comprehend all that they do to bring it together year after year!

My family and I thoroughly enjoy and appreciate the Jaycees and their festival!

Thanks so much!

Janet Haggerty Hoopeston

Writer should look at both sides

I must take issue with the letter in Thursday's publication. First, the Republican party or Tea Party or conservatives are not, nor have been, out to kill the disabled (young or old) nor throw Grandpa out in the cold.

People in this country have died and will continue to do so because our federal/state government for years has not provided adequate funding for Medicaid and Medicare and continues to mess with it. A few years ago, many doctors and clinics stopped taking Medicaid patients and, as of a year or so ago, have stopped taking Medicare patients. Keep in mind, unless God moves on their hearts in our legislature, both federal and state, this so-called Obamacare will kick in. Already, the evil intent has its tentacles choking off some people's lifelines. For example, one company that provides oxygen has stopped taking Medicare only. I would rather starve, lose my job, than come into someone's home and take away their oxygen.

And we know this coming "care" is stalling business owners from hiring and they are holding their breaths until it comes. This "care" is already causing problems with human lives and our economy.

And our president is so wonderful, already threatening to blame Republicans if he does not get his way with his upcoming economic plan? And George Bush is still the devil's stooge for everything under the sun, including doubtless, that we cannot afford to eat healthy?

Let us think for ourselves and look at all sides of any issue.

Letters to the Editor

I do wish to continue a discourse with any who disagree with me, but let us look back, also, for maybe 30 years of congressional/presidential history and get a clear picture. Both sides are to blame for problems, as well as voters not paying attention.

Alice Lawrence Fink Hoopeston

Things to consider about wind turbines

Our home is at the edge of a recently completed industrial wind development near Sheldon. From our front porch, we now see more than 90 turbines, with the closest one about 2,000 ft away. These are issues to consider that not only affect individual residents but the county as a whole.

1. It's hard to imagine the full impact on the soil and on the environment until you actually witness the construction firsthand. Countless tons of concrete go into the soil for every turbine base. Iroquois County was advised that their plan for demolition of the bases when turbines are no longer functioning does not comply with Illinois EPA requirements. Who will be liable? Why is our plan for turbine removal in Iroquois County less protective than what Champaign and other counties have implemented?

2. There are township roads that now have deeper ditches with no shoulders, making rollover accidents more likely. (Turn south from 1400 N onto 2700 E as an example) Some drainage commissioners who asked to be notified when cables were buried under ditches or creeks were not.

3. One acre of farmland used up for each turbine may not sound like much, but what if your county has around 1,000 turbines, as neighboring Benton County does? The numbers and the acres will keep multiplying. Prime farmland is what Iroquois County is supposed to be famous for.

4. Leases are commonly resold to other companies, and although these companies may maintain an office in the US, many wind farms are Limited Liability Companies with foreign investors. A wind farm near Mendota recently sold to a Chinese firm. How dependent do you want to be on foreign countries?

5. The wind industry may say that they 'provide clean, renewable fuel', but does anyone ask for proof

about the validity of the claims they make? Wind turbines don't provide fuel. They provide electricity, and they do it very inefficiently. Electricity is what provides power to all our homes and businesses. Fuel is what provides power to all of the bulldozers, cranes, loaders, semi trucks, dump trucks and pickup trucks (mostly from out of state) that build the 'clean, renewable' turbines. (see May 5, 2011 article in the Washington Examiner entitled *Lots of dirty things have to happen to make clean energy*)

6. Massive areas are affected, not just one site. There aren't as many options now for future use of the land. People move away. According to the assessor in Benton County, one of the wind farms there attempted to get out of paying the taxes it had promised. Other wind farms in Illinois and elsewhere have appealed their property taxes. Last May the governor of Oklahoma signed a new law designed to protect landowners from companies using the threat of eminent domain to develop wind farms.

7. Operating times for turbines are very unpredictable and they do make noise, especially later in the evening. The noise permeates buildings even if doors and windows are closed, and it can be intolerable to people who are used to living in quiet areas. Many of us are discovering that 2,000 ft from the base of a turbine to the foundation of a home is way too close.

What kind of environment do you want for your children and grandchildren? What would you say to your niece if she told you (as ours did this summer) that "these turbines are taking away all my good memories of growing up here?" This "progress" has changed our lives, and each new development will undoubtedly change the lives of others in the future. Please care about these things, and do what you can. Mary Langellier

Milford

Weather

Chance of thunderstorms today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 70, low 59. Tomorrow, high 75, low 59. Sunday partly sunny. High 78, low 59.

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



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RUMMAGE SALES

RANKIN: 310 W. 2nd Ave. Fri. & Sat., 8-6. Furniture, electronics, household, exercise equipment, many other items.

HOOPESTON: 516 E. Seminary. Sat., 8-? Moving sale. Table & chairs, entertainment center, recliner, Christmas trees w/ decoration, clothes of all sizes, John Deere riding mower, patio furniture, knickknacks

HOOPESTON: 618 S. 6th Ave., 522 N 9th Ave. Sat., 8-? Jeans for everyone (at least 100 pairs) flowers, toys, good school clothing for all, knickknacks, curtains, rugs, too much to list—don't miss it!

HOOPESTON: 709 E. Main. Sat., 8-noon. Interior designers dream sale: Picture frames, knick knacks, LONGABERGER BASKETS, lots of display shelves, picnic table/bench, DVD's and VHS movies, old Pepsi machine, quality children's clothing and adult clothes and much more. Something for everyone and price to sell...Don't miss this one!

HOOPESTON: 724 N. 5th St. Sat., 8-? Multi-family sale

HOOPESTON: 528 E. Young. Fri, 4-7 p.m., Sat., 8 a.m.-? Huge 4+ family inside garage sale. Some new stuff, lots of little boy clothes to 4T, lots of books 2 antique desks, some crafts. Something for everyone!

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