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Thursday, September 27, 2012

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

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www.justthefacts.net

Area funeral homes get new name, same personal service

In 1974, Don Wolfe started the Wolfe Funeral Home business and was fond of telling everyone that the way to get to heaven was through his funeral home.

Recently, the way to get to the Pearly Gates has changed.

As of September 7, Wolfe Funeral Home & Cremation Service became Wolfe-Blurton Funeral Home and Cremation Service.

Matt Blurton, along with his wife, Jennifer and parents, Gary and Sherry Blurton, will operate the chain of funeral homes, which started in Rankin and expanded to include services for Potomac, Ross-ville, Tilton and Hoopeston.

Owning a funeral home "was always my dream," said Blurton, whose father was a county coroner. Going with his father, he spent time in small funeral homes. "I grew up wanting to be a funeral director," he said.

Blurton worked for Sunset Funeral Home in Danville for almost nine years, serving as assistant manager for part of that time. Realizing he had reached "the top of the ladder" at the family-owned Sunset group, he severed his ties to the company and struck out on his own.

As Blurton was looking for a funeral home to purchase, Rodger Wolfe, who had worked with his dad for more than 22 years and who had taken over when Don retired in 2004, decided he wanted to concentrate on other areas of life. "It was time for a change," Rodger said. "It's time for new energy to come in."

Rodger, who operated the funeral homes with his



Rodger Wolfe, left, congratulates Matt Blurton on purchasing Wolfe Funeral Homes. Blurton has changed the name of the service to Wolfe-Blurton Funeral Homes.

wife, Marj, and daughters Tiffany Bruens and Taylor Wolfe, will continue to work for Blurton for five years. "I'm not going anywhere," he said. "For anyone who needs me, I plan on being right there for them."

Blurton said he will continue to offer the same caring tradition that Wolfe Funeral Homes have stood for, while modernizing the business. Already, a website is available at www.wolfeblurtonfuneralhome.com.

He also has plans to do some remodeling at the Hoopeston location, adding a café-style lounge and a casket viewing room.

There are a couple things that won't change: Blurton

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Briefly

Library celebrates fall

Hoopeston Public Library celebrates the harvest season with a vintage photo display in the case in the Reading Room area. The archival display is called "Hoopeston Prairie: Harvesting Long Ago."

"The Gathering"

Rossville senior citizens are invited to the fire station for the monthly gathering at 1 p.m. Thursday. Everyone is welcome!

Church celebrates 140 years

Prairie Green Church of Christ will celebrate its 140th anniversary as a congregation on Sunday, Sept. 30. The celebration will begin at the 9:30 a.m. worship service. An open house will be held from 2-4 p.m.

Funeral continued from other side

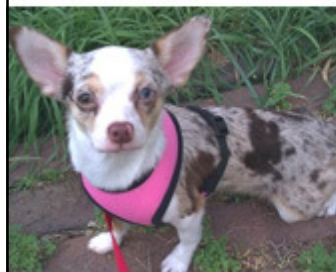
will continue to honor prearrangements made by Wolfe and has no plans to increase prices, as a way of honoring the Wolfe tradition and old-fashioned good business. "My philosophy is 'treat people the way you want to be treated,'" Blurton said.

Blurton, 34, graduated from the Vincennes University mortuary science program in 2001. He and his wife have three children, Marcus, 10; Makayla, seven and Madilyn, four.

The family currently resides in rural Danville, where Blurton is president of Danville Saints youth football and a volunteer fireman for the Bismarck district. He plans to become active in local activities. "I look forward to getting involved here and being seen," he said.

Wolfe-Blurton Funeral Home's Hoopeston facility may be reached at (217) 283-5088.

Lost Dog



**"Jipsi" last seen
Sept. 14 at 2nd
Ave. & W. Maple.
She has one blue
eye and one
brown. If you see
her, please call
(217) 597-8769.**

Everyone is welcome to celebrate with history, photos and memories.

For more information, call (815) 984-4929.

Alley cleanup

Hoopeston alley cleanup will begin October 1, weather permitting. This is for yard waste only—brush, grass and leaves. No landscape materials, such as lumber, plastic, concrete or brick, will be picked up. If any of these are in the pile, they will not be picked up. No exceptions!

Energy assistance

East Central Illinois Community Action Program will be at the Hoopeston Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave., on October 18, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. to take applications for energy assistance. No appointment is necessary. This time is for senior citizens and disabled only!

Bring proof of income for last 30 days; social security cards for all household members, most current gas and electric bill, and proof of food stamps and rent, if applicable.

Police News



Seth Gredy, 27, of Springfield, turned himself in to police at 3:47 p.m. Tuesday. Wanted on a Vermilion County traffic warrant for failure to appear, and an Iroquois County warrant for failure to appear/battery, he was released on bond with a new court date in each county.

Obituaries

LONG - Frances M. (Seidel) Long, 92, of Hoopeston, died at 4 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 22, 2012, at Hoopeston Community Memorial Nursing Home. Visitation will be 11 a.m. until the 1 p.m. funeral Friday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to Hoopeston United Methodist Church, 403 E. Main St.,

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 71. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 48. Tomorrow, sunny; High 72, low 47

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



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MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Electric guitar and amplifier with stand, case and instruction books/CD. \$100. (217) 504-2433

RUMMAGE SALES

HOOPESTON: 819 E. Chestnut. Thurs., 5-7 p.m., Fri. 7 am.-1 p.m. Multi family sale. Lots of items, furniture, Christmas & baby.

HOOPESTON: 714 s. Fourth St. Fri. 8-12 & 4-7, Sat. 8-? Baby girl some newborn-2T, and women's clothes, household items.

HOOPESTON: 106 N. Third St. Fri. & Sat., 8-? Tools, small 2 drawer file cabinet, miniature Yamaha keyboard, pictures, Christmas décor, misc.

HOOPESTON: 911 Sells. Fri., 9-2, Sat.& Sun., 6-2. Huge multi family moving sale. Lots for everyone. Come see what we have! Clothing, dryer, furniture, toys, shelves, household items—too many to list!

HOOPESTON: 618 S. Second Ave. Fri, 8-3, Sat. 8-noon. Girls clothes (size 6, 6X, 12, winter summer clothes (kids/adults) toys, Christmas decorations, twin bed frame, misc.

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