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Thursday, April 4, 2013
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 www.justthefacts.net
Lourdine Florek, owner



Mayor Bill Crusinberry makes a point at Monday's mayoral forum, as challenger Jeramy Dobkins and moderator Valarie Paulson look on. The event, sponsored by The Chronicle, was held at the Hoopeston American Legion. More than 50 people attended to hear the candidates' stances on issues.

Crusinberry, Dobkins discuss issues at mayoral forum

Hoopeston's incumbent mayor suggested residents get a say in what new services the city provides while the man challenging him thinks ways can be found to cut money from the budget.

Mayor Bill Crusinberry and challenger Jeramy Dobkins told voters their plans for Hoopeston at a public forum Monday night. The event, sponsored by The Chronicle, drew more than 50 people to the Hoopeston American Legion.

After several questions about dilapidated and abandoned buildings in the city - with Crusinberry saying the city has no funds to tear them down and Dobkins suggesting city employees be used - Crusinberry said he

will ask the council for permission to put the issue before voters at a future general election, asking for a sales tax hike to fund demolition in Hoopeston. The first \$50,000 raised would go towards razing homes, with the next \$25,000 going towards demolition of commercial buildings. Any money left over would go to the city's accrual fund for vehicles and major equipment.

Resident Claudia DeWitt, who started by questioning abandoned buildings, said such a tax would "fall on the backs of seniors," but Crusinberry said seniors constitute a large voting bloc and could defeat a referendum. "We need to let the people decide if they want to pay the ex-

See FORUM on other side

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www.facebook.com/DobkinsForMayor

Paid for by the supporters of Jeramy Dobkins for Mayor

Parsons to celebrate golden anniversary with open house



MARTY and BERTHA PARSONS

Marty and Bertha Parsons of 102 S. Third St., Hoopeston will celebrate their 50th anniversary with an open

house from 2-4 p.m. Saturday at Hoopeston American Legion, 502 E. Penn. Their children will host the celebration. Cards are welcome, your presence even better. Come and bring your favorite memory or story about the couple.

The couple was married April 6, 1963 at Pontoppidan Lutheran Church near Elliott, by the Rev. Robert Crofton.

Marty is the son of Mildred Siddens and Bertha is the daughter of Martha (Carden) Lashley. They are parents of two sons, Martin, of Carbondale, and Matthew, of San Diego, Calif., and daughter, Marie (Jon) McCarty and three grandsons, all of Covington, Ind.

Marty spent 22 years as manager of Gary's Men & Boys Clothing and manager of various retail businesses, including Marty's Cafeteria, before becoming a management consultant for credit unions in the southern states for 16 years. He now enjoys traveling to visit family and friends and all kinds of handyman work, as well as looking after Bertha, a full time job.

Bertha worked as a Tupperware consultant for 16 years and a Christmas Around the World/House of Lloyd manager for 16 years. She retired from the Chronicle in 2008, after nine years in sales and marketing. She travels with Marty and does part time work for Anthem Chevrolet in Hoopeston. She is also known as the "Card Lady" sending cards and notes to friends, family, and strangers, and just enjoying life.

Forum continued from other side

tra money to tear these buildings down," he said.

Another point between the candidates is whether city employees can take on more tasks, such as maintenance and repairs to city vehicles, sidewalk repairs and others.

Dobkins said workers could do such tasks, saying the city pays too much for some projects that call for the city to pay prevailing wages.

Prevailing wages are set by regulatory agencies and must be paid on projects paid, at least in part, by state or federal money. The rate varies from trade to trade but is usually significantly higher than the wage paid to city employees.

Crusinberry countered that Hoopeston has a sufficient workforce for city needs but not the extra employees it

would take to do additional projects. Because Hoopeston cannot afford to fully fund large projects, the city accepts federal/state money and must abide by the prevailing wage law.

Crusinberry outlined accomplishments, including the new McDonald's, nursing home, Autumn Fields, Prairie Meadows, new water main, and plans for a second term which include refurbishing the aerial and ground water storage tanks; updating the sand filters at the water treatment plant and keeping city finances in the black.

Dobkins praised what Crusinberry has done but said he wants to make sure the city is solid so the children and grandchildren of his generation "would be proud to call Hoopeston their home."

Briefly

No van service Thursday

Hoopeston Multi Agency's van will not be in service Thursday. Agency officials apologize for any inconvenience.

Chicken noodle dinner

First Church of God Grace Outreach group will be host a Chicken Noodle Dinner from 4-7 p.m. Thursday at the church. The dinner will include drink and dessert for a free will donation which will be used to defray the costs of Christian ministries. Come join us for fellowship and good "home-style" cooking.

WMD winners

Winners in the March Women Making a Difference drawing were: \$25, Joanna Hodge and Al Zawarus; \$15, Darlene Musk and Don Dixon; and \$10, Tom Sweeney and Caitlyn Bekkering.

Meet the candidates

Rossville residents are invited to meet the candidates running in the April 9 election from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, April 6, at the Ambulance Building next to Casey's on West Attica.

HMA dance

Hoopeston Multi Agency's monthly dance will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at the Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave. Beverly Wolf and Company will provide the music. Admission is \$5 per person. Coffee and tea will be provided; bring a snack to share.

Final softball sign-up

The last sign-up for the girls softball will be Sunday, April 7, from 11-2 at Hoopeston City Hall.

Law regarding political signs

Some political signs are placed incorrectly around Hoopeston and need to be moved. The ordinance states that political signs shall be confined to private property, and shall be removed within 14 days after the election for which they were erected. They may not be on city right of way, which is from the sidewalk to the street. In areas where no sidewalk is available, Office Manager Loni Gress said it is from the power pole to the street, so signs may be placed between the power pole and the house, or the sidewalk and the house.

Thank You Dr. San Diego!

Gibson Area Hospital & The Family Health Care of Hoopeston would like to thank Dr. Anthony San Diego for his 14 years of service to Hoopeston and the surrounding areas. Here is to many more years to come.

Dr. San Diego is now seeing patients out of the Family Health Care of Hoopeston. Call Gibson General Surgery to make your appointment today.

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General Surgery

837 E. Orange St.
Hoopeston, IL 60942

Appointments available on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings of each month, from 9am to 12pm.
Surgeries will still be performed at either CHRHC or Gibson Area Hospital.



Photo contributed

Cinderella

Hoopeston Area High School Drama Department will present "Cinderella" at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the high school auditorium. Tickets are \$2 for students, \$3 for adults and free for senior citizens 60 and older. Pictured are cast members, back row Ricardo Plaza, Cassandra Smith and Alec Wise; seated, Michelle Seat, Kelsey Franke; and on the floor, Holly Morgeson and Theresa Samet.

2013 Healthy Living Choices Expo

Friday, April 5th 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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Obituaries

ESPINOZA - Maria (Perez) Ester Espinoza, 70, of Milford, died Tuesday, April 2, 2013, at home. Visitation will be 10 a.m. until the noon funeral Saturday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford. Memorials are suggested to family wishes.



Letters to the Editor

Why no snow help?

Last week we had another deep snow and after years, I have yet to hear anyone knocking at my door or seen anyone walking around with a snow shovel looking to earn some extra money, be it a teen-ager or adult. No one ever showed up and asked if they could mow my lawn. What is going on? Don't youngsters need any extra money or just anyone wanting to help their infirmed neighbors? I was under the apparently wrong impression and thought we

had a lot of folks in town who were of low income. Apparently not.

This letter has been a long time coming. If it were not for my senior neighbor and his snow blower and just plain consideration, there would not have been a path to my front door. No one ever asks him, either.

I know we have adults in businesses who do these chores. I tried a few years ago for these businesses to even return my messages if they could not take on any more; I called 2-3 times a week for a month or more-which was dumb. I would have thought anyone in a business would at least give the caller the courtesy of returning the call and letting them know they were too booked. Makes sense to me. Thanks to a neighbor, I was able to get their lawn care folks. I thank God.

Why is it such a struggle here to do certain kinds of business and get a response? I am not the only one who has had this problem. Someone rightly suggested there should be someone(s) to have a "courtesy" volunteer-type business of making sure seniors and the younger infirmed have these type of services available.

I will say about three years ago, a couple neighbors up the block were doing their sidewalk and without asking came and shoveled the sidewalk. That was extremely "neighborly" and how well I appreciated it.

If I sounds as if I am complaining, so be it. It is, I supposed, one of those unanswerable questions in life. It was gratifying to see a photo in a newspaper of four teens walking down a street in another city-with shovels and earning money.

Alice J. Fink
Hoopeston

Police News

A 35-year-old Hoopeston woman reported at 4:33 p.m. Monday that her tires were slashed while her vehicle was in the 300 block of East Penn.

Skylar M. Reeves, 16. of Hoopeston, was ticketed for improper backing after an accident at 4:52 p.m. Monday. Police said Reeves, in a 2013 Chrysler van, backed from a driveway in the 600 block of West Orange and struck a 2011 Dodge Ram, driven by Sandra J. Kinnaird and owned by Star Chrysler, all of Hoopeston.

In support of Brockus for DACC board

Dear Friends and Members of the Community,

My name is Ed Layden Sr., a former member of the Danville Area Community College Board of Trustees and member of the District 507 community.

A strong community leader, Harry Brockus, is running for Trustee of Danville Area Community College in the upcoming April 9th elections. As the election draws nearer, I would like to encourage each of you to take a closer look at Harry's leadership and why he is the best choice that makes sense for a leader that can help transform the future.

Harry is the Chief Executive Officer of Carle Hoopes-ton Regional Health Center. I have known him for the past four years, that he has served in this position. Harry came to our community at a time when the hospital was struggling. He committed himself and the hospital to making the community better through a focus on quality of care and access to services. Through his leadership the hospital has transformed into a leader among peer facilities throughout the State of Illinois and now has stable growth with long term viability for decades to come.

That spirit flowed over into other communities, spear-heading projects in Hoopeston, Rossville, Cissna Park, Watska and Milford. Developing a network of partnerships to assure the good people of these rural areas had the same access to care and technology that is normally only available in larger population areas.

Harry has also contributed to economic growth through support of numerous business development projects and working with Vermilion Advantage, a grant for a \$750,000 water line was obtained. A new 37,000 square nursing was developed through USDA funding under his leadership. Others have benefited as well, his support of new retail development has led to great success for local businesses, others have come to our com-

munity and developed new senior living and care options, encouraged by local healthcare growth. Harry understands what it means to be a PARNTER in a community.

These are just some of the reasons why I am supporting Harry Brockus in his campaign for trustee of Danville Area Community College, and I'd like to see you do the same. Many of you have supported me in this position through the years, I am putting my full support behind Harry this year and ask that you do the same.

Thank you for your time, and I hope you'll join me in voting for Harry Brockus on April 9th!

Regards,

Ed Layden, Sr.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Illiana Migrant & Seasonal Head Start in Sheldon, IL is accept-ing applications for the following positions: Program support (Secretary), Family Service Coordinator, Education Coordinator/Teacher, Disabilities Coordinator/Mental Health coordinator, Infant/Toddler teacher, Pre-School teacher (3-5), Teacher Aide for Pre-School classroom, Bus Drivers, Bus Aides, and Licensed Nutritionist. Applicants must have a minimum of a CDA to work in the classroom as a T/A. All other classroom position are AA qualification required. HS diploma or GED is required to be a bus aide. Bus driver must have a CDL with a bus driver's endorsement. All other positions inquire within. To request an application please send an email to migranth610@gmail.com or call 815-429-3274. You may also send a resume' to: IMSHS, 150 S. Randolph St., Sheldon, IL 60966. Accepting applications until May 10, 2013. Must attend all trainings for the position.

Hubbard Trail Country Club: Part time bartender, flexible hours. Apply in person Mon-Fri 8am-12pm

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Ambia, Ind. 2 BR, dining room, eat in kitchen, utility room, 1.5 car garage on large corner lot. \$20,000 OBO. (217) 283-5093 or (217) 799-2567.

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