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Just the Facts[©]
Thursday, November 21, 2013
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Mayor disputes claim he declined offer to accept tire site

Contrary to published reports, Hoopeston officials did not turn down an offer to take ownership of the former J&R used tire facility.

At Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting, Mayor Bill Crusinberry said J&R owner Rodney Roger's assertion in the November 12 News-Gazette that he offered the property and Crusinberry declined was a "half truth."

Rogers was quoted as saying most of the cleanup at facility, the site of a June 19 tire fire, is complete and that cleanup was paid for with steel salvaged from the site, with Rogers and his wife, Janie, paying the rest of the cost. Since the city turned down their offer, the couple has plans to develop the site, according to the article.

Crusinberry agreed that Rogers did call about giving the property to the city. Crusinberry said he told Rogers he could not make the decision on his own and wanted to check with Environmental Protection Agency officials about possible contamination at the site.

"I never declined the property," Crusinberry said. "That's a false statement. I thought the property is not ready to be transferred to anybody."

There are a few things that still need to be cleaned at the site, including a concrete pad. Crusinberry said he

was told the pad would be cleaned but that it has not yet been cleaned. Also, a retention pond and sewers must also be deemed clean but that will probably not happen until next spring or summer. Soil borings are also supposed to be done to determine any ground contamination.

As for Rogers' plans to develop the property, Crusinberry said he doubted any financial institution would lend money for development until Rogers has a No Further Remediation (NFR) letter from the EPA. Such a letter would be the environmental agency's stamp of approval that the property was cleaned and was not a health hazard from the fire.

Rogers recently opened a new used tire business in part of the former General Motors foundry in Tilton.

In unrelated business, the council:

- Approved new fees for animals running loose that are picked up by the humane officer.

Intake fees were set at \$35 for animals from Hoopeston residents and \$50 for pets owned by others.

Those who want to bail their pets out will pay an intake fee of \$20 for dogs and \$10 for cats, plus \$9 for each day the pet was a guest at the city shelter.

Fees must be paid before the pet is released to the owner. Money will go to fund the city's new shelter, in the former veterinarian office at 901 W. Main, said Alderman Brandon Hamilton.

- Approved giving \$4,000 to Allen Accounting from the city's façade program. Alderman Larry Baughn said the façade committee unanimously agreed to the award.

- Heard from Crusinberry, who praised Hoopeston emergency management volunteers and the communications department for their work in Sunday's storms and resulting power outages.

- Saw a presentation from Curt Ellis on the city's new website, www.cityofhoopeston.com.

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The Karate Club



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206 S. First Ave., Hoopeston

(217) 497-3916 **(217) 497-7307**


VFW Menu

Orange & 4th Ave., Hoopeston

Wednesday Wings
5-8 p.m. 50¢ each

ThirstyThursdays and Tacos
5-8 p.m.

\$1.25 domestic beers, \$2 imports
Come out and support your local VFW!



September 5

Edgar Cotton, Hoopeston, status hearing November 7.

Michelle Kempen, Hoopeston, status hearing November 7.

Tasha Uppinghouse, Hoopeston, status hearing November 7.

Patrick Nichols, Hoopeston, status hearing October 3.

Molly Martinez, Hoopeston, status hearing October 3.

Mr Handy Man

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Court Dispositions



3. **Beau Edwards**, Hoopeston, status hearing October 3.

Matthew Longfellow, Hoopeston, status hearing October 3.

Amy Nosler, Hoopeston, status hearing November 7.

Briefly

Donations for Gifford

To those who want to donate to Gifford residents who are victims of Sunday's tornado, these items are requested: personal hygiene, cleaning supplies, totes, water and drinks.

Please take your donated items to Crown Ford in Hoopeston.

Bank to honor employee

Community Bank will host an open house honoring Bonnie Goodrich's 50 years of service. The event will feature cookies and punch and will be held Friday, Nov. 22, at the Community Bank facility at the corner of Routes 1 and 9. Please stop in.

Community Thanksgiving Service


Hoopeston Area Ministerial Association is sponsoring a Community Thanksgiving service to be held at 2 p.m. November 24 at First United Methodist Church in Rankin.

All churches are invited to worship together and celebrate the Spirit of Thanksgiving!

Obituaries

BAKER - Leonard P. Baker, 80, of Hoopeston, died at 12:25 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013, at Mt. Carmel Health, Columbus, Ohio. Visitation will be 10 a.m. until the noon celebration of his life Thursday at First Free Will Baptist Church, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to the church or American Legion Post #384. Wolfe-Blurton Funeral Home, Hoopeston, is in charge of arrangements.

Weather



Rain today, tonight, tomorrow. High today 49, low 43. Tomorrow, high 46, low 27.

Richard Strawser III, Hoopeston, case continued generally.

Christopher Cibirka, Hoopeston, status hearing October 3.

Chase Holt, Hoopeston, status hearing October 3.

Terrence Poke, Danville, status hearing October 3.

Zacaria Sage, Hoopeston, status hearing October 3.

Patrick Griffin, Hoopeston, fined \$280 for general nuisance; status hearing October 3.

Lacy Simpson, Hoopeston, fined \$280 for general nuisance; status hearing October 3.

Kenneth Irwin, Crete, case continued to October 3.

Donald Underwood Jr., Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to interference with police, fined \$330 or 40 hours public service; status hearing October 3.

Gretchen Bluege, Hoopeston, case dismissed.

BINGO

7 p.m. every Thursday

Hoopeston

American Legion

502 E. Penn

Classifieds

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