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Thursday, March 23, 2017

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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City council approves new Floral Hill lot costs, fees on May 1

The cost of going to the hereafter is going to cost more in the here and now.

The Hoopeston City Council on Tuesday approved increasing fees for grave lots and services.

Ald. Chad Yaden, cemetery committee chairman, said the council voted several years ago to have annual rate increases but that prices have not been raised.

Also, he said the increase in need for cremain spaces is creating a shortfall for many cemeteries as they are less expensive than grave spaces.

Under Yaden's proposal, one grave space will remain at \$350. The cost of multiple plots will be:

- 2 plots - \$650, up from \$600
- 3 plots - \$950, up from \$850
- 4 plots - \$1,250, up from \$1,100
- 5 plots - \$1,550, up from \$1,350
- 6 plots - \$1,850, up from \$1,600
- 7 plots - \$2,150, up from \$1,850
- 8 plots - \$2,450, up from \$2,100

Baby graves in designated areas will remain at \$175.

The grave opening fee for a full plot will be \$500 on weekdays, \$750 on weekends and \$1,250 on Sundays and holidays. Those fees had been \$450, \$675 and \$1,125, respectively.



Darren Duncan, who has served as District 1 representative on the Vermilion County Board, talks about Hoopeston during Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting. Duncan is resigning his seat after being named Vermilion County treasurer.

Grave opening for one cremain will be \$300 weekdays, \$450 Saturdays and \$750 for Sundays and holidays.

Those rates will also apply to baby grave openings.

The cost for two cremains will be \$600, \$750 and \$1,050, respectively.

In addition, an extra \$75 fee will be charged on all funerals scheduled after 1 p.m. to help pay the cost of overtime for cemetery employees, Yaden said.

Disinterment fees are going from \$1,350 for adults and \$690 for baby graves and ashes to \$1,500 and \$900.

See COSTS on other side

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Meet & Greet the Band Meal

5:30-6:30 p.m. | Hoopeston Methodist Church | Freewill donation to benefit Lorraine Theatre renovations

Costs continued from other side

Ald. Brandon Hamilton voted against the increases, saying at its March 7 meeting, the council voted against putting a referendum on a future ballot, asking residents to approve a one percent sales tax, then at the very next meeting, wants to raise fees. The sales tax, he said, would be paid not only by city residents but those who shop here from out of town, "not just—former residents."

Voting for the increase were Yaden, Carl Ankenbrand, Bill McElhaney and Lourdine Florek.

Aldermen Ryan Anderson, Alex Houmes and Bill

Goodwine were absent.

The new prices will become effective May 1.

In other business, the council heard from Darren Duncan, who will resign his seat to replace Sue Stine as Vermillion County treasurer, effective April 3.

Duncan was appointed to the board in 2015 and won the seat last November. During his tenure, "I got

Briefly

At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library are:
Spring Break Family Movie, 2 p.m., Thursday. Enjoy the new animated musical "Sing!" Free popcorn. Bring your own drinks (closed containers). Kids ages 8 and under should be accompanied by an adult.

P.E.P. Potluck Party

First United Methodist Church invites everyone to its People Enjoying People Potluck Party, Monday, March 27 from 5-7 p.m. at 403 E. Main, Hoopeston.

Main dish, drinks and table service provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

to know Hoopeston a lot better," he said. A fairly regular attendee of council meetings, he said he will probably be a less frequent visitor but "this won't be the last meeting I'll ever come to."

Obituaries

NEHLS - Dr. Erick Christian Nehls Jr., 83, of Milford, died Thursday, March 16, 2017 at Iroquois Memorial Hospital, Watseka. Graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford, with military rites by Cissna Park American Legion. A funeral luncheon will be held at noon at St. John Lutheran Church, Schwer. Memorials are suggested to Milford Area Fire Department, Milford Ambulance or donor's choice. Knapp Funeral Home, Milford, is handling arrangements.

Weather

Partly sunny, then chance of showers today. High 50. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 47. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy, breezy. High 69, low 55.

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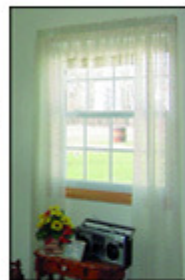
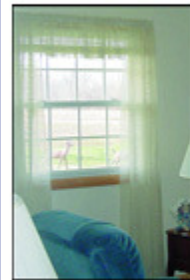
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Saturday, April 1 and April 8 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Class fee \$75

Gardening Basics - Why do My Plants Die?
Saturday, April 8 at 2 p.m. Class fee \$30 includes materials
Space limited to 10 students

Yoga for Better Balance
Tuesday and Thursday, April 11-May 4
from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Class fee \$50

Money Management for Teens and Adults
The basics of money management and the consequences if you don't!
Tuesday, April 11 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Class fee \$12

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Classifieds

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