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Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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City council approves increases in swimming pool fees

Hoopeston City Council unanimously approved new pool prices at its May 16 meeting.

A one-person season pass will remain at \$90, said Ald. Alex Houmes, parks committee chairman. Other passes are \$120 for two-person; \$150, three-person; \$180, four-person; and \$210, five-person. For each additional person, \$30 will be added to the cost, he said.

Residents who purchase passes on opening day will be offered a 15 percent discount, down from 20 percent.

Houmes reminded residents that multiperson passes are considered family passes for immediate/close family members.

Entry for children under age 4 remains free. Adults accompanying youngsters must either have a pass or pay the \$4 fee.

To attract more adult swimmers - who swim from 6-7 p.m. - the entry fee was reduced from \$4 to \$2.

parks committee at a May 9 meeting. At Gail Lane at the May 16 council meeting. that meeting, the committee discussed allowing camping at McFerren Park at times other than the National Sweetcorn Festival. Currently, camping is allowed on a case-bycase-basis. Houmes said. It will continue to remain so while the committee considers possible income and expenses to a permanent campground area.

In other business, the council:

- heard from Ald. Chad Yaden that the Floral Hill gate has been repaired and a light added to the top.
- Approved Built to Last Construction city sidewalk program bid of \$4.39/sq. ft. and \$5.39/sq. ft. for handicappedaccessible entrances, with the city supplying ADA plates.



The changes were recommended by the Bill McElhaney, Ward 1 alderman, is sworn in by Hoopeston City Clerk





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Kids aren't the only ones to go on new path following graduation

The focus was on the students during Hoopeston Area High School's commencement exercise on May 14, but it's not just the graduates who will experience life changes with the end of this year.

Throughout the Hoopeston Area district, several longtime employees will say goodbye to the district when the year ends. Several of them were recognized with service awards during the graduation ceremony.

Leading the list of those who will retire is Supt. Hank Hornbeck, who came to the Hoopeston school system in 1994 as physical education teacher, high school dean of students, then high school principal. In 2007, he was named district superintendent.

Others who are leaving at the end of the year include:

- Lori Eells, who joined the district in 1994 as a teacher but then became involved with special programs before becoming Maple principal, the position she currently holds.
- Larry Maynard, marking his 10th year as high school principal, will leave to become superintendent of Potomac Grade School.
- Kay Brown, hired as a teacher, will leave after many years as the high school guidance counselor. Brown started at Hoopeston Area in 1991.



Photo contributed

Left, Hoopeston Area Supt. Hank Hornbeck walks at graduation for the last time. Above, Glenn Brewer, Hoopeston Education Association president, stands between Kay Brown, left, and Nita Lockhart, right, both of whom will retire at the end of this school year and were honored by the Hoopeston Education Association..

- Rich Stipp, who taught for six years, starting in 1975, then quit to join the family radio business. He returned in 2002 as a science teacher. He also coached high school cross country and middle school track teams.
- Annette "Nita" Lockhart came to Hoopeston Area in 1996 and has made memories for many students in her role as first grade teacher.
- Nancy Stipp retired as district accounts payable and Larry "Red" Wallace as Maple custodian in December 2016. Both were recognized during graduation.

From the Blotter

A 47-year-old Hoopeston woman reported at 4:07 p.m. Saturday that someone cut her swimming pool with a knife. The damage occurred in the 300 block of North Seventh Ave.

While on patrol at 7:57 a.m. Sunday, Hoopeston police found a car in the middle of a field near 4000 North Rd. The owner, a 43-year-old Hoopeston man, was contacted and told police it had been stolen during the overnight hours.

A 37-year-old Hoopeston man reported at 12:31 p.m. Sunday that during the previous evening, his grey Hyundai SUV was taken from the 400 block of West Maple.

Jason A. Kinnaird, 40, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 5:50 p.m. Sunday the 400 block of East Honeywell. Wanted on an Iroquois County traffic warrant and a Tippecanoe County, Ind., warrant for a domestic offense, he was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await extradition.

Trinidad R. Hernanez Jr., 44, of Hoopeston, was arrested after Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 7:03 p.m. Sunday to the 300 block of West Chestnut for a reported house on fire. The fire was found to be an illegal burn outside the house.

Hernandez was charged with illegally burning and released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court. No injuries were reported.

Weather

Chance of showers today, tonight, tomorrow. High today 70, low 52. Tomorrow, high 63, low 50.

Obituaries

CROUCH - Kenneth H. Crouch of Punta Gorda, Fla., formerly of Hoopeston, died May 15, 2017. Service will be held at a later date. He will be buried in a National Cemetery in Florida. Mr. Crouch is survived by a sister, Donna Field, of Hoopeston.

WEISGERBER - Elizabeth A. (Romine) Weisgerber, 53, of Defiance, Ohio, formerly of Hoopeston, died Sunday, May 14, 2017 at ProMedica defiance Regional Hospital. Visitation was 2-8 p.m. Thursday at Shaffer Funeral Home, Defiance. Funeral was at 11 a.m. Friday at the funeral home, followed by burial in Riverside Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to American Cancer Society or National Autism Association.

She was the daughter of Anne Parish and Robert Romine.

WESTFALL - Dorothy Mae (Demarco) Westfall, 85, of Rankin, died at 9:22 a.m. Thursday, May 18, 2017 at home. She will be cremated and no service held. Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston, is handling arrangements.

Classifieds

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POLICE OFFICER EXAM

City of Hoopeston Police Department

Applications will be accepted without regard to sex, race, national origin or religious creed. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age and a US. Citizen. Applications may be picked up at the Hoopeston City Hall, beginning May 22, 2017 or they may be obtained at www.hoopestonpolice.org. Applications must be received by June 2, 2017. Send to:

The Board of Police Commissioners

Hoopeston City Hall 301 W. Main St. Hoopeston, IL 60942

Both the written and the physical agility test will be administered on June 17, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. Specific information as to location of test and testing procedures will be included with application.

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