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Masonic Lodge 709 AF & AM

**Fall Breakfast**  
6-11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 4  
Biscuits & gravy, sausage, eggs cooked to order, toast, coffee, juice

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**Just the Facts** Lourdine Florek, Owner  
Wednesday, November 1, 2017  
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!  
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 [www.justthefacts.net](http://www.justthefacts.net)

**Council approves demolition proposal; owner not off hook**

Hoopeston officials approved a demolition proposal for a building at 105 E. Main, which suffered a roof collapse on October 11, but will have the owner reimburse them.

At a special meeting Monday evening, the council unanimously waived seeking bids, due to the emergency nature of the situation, then, in a second 8-0 vote, green-lighted a \$12,450 proposal from Terry Glynn Demolition, of Hennepin.

The cost includes demolition, hauling off debris, filling in the underground portion of the building, then filling the top with clay and black dirt.

Bricks are expected to be crushed and used to fill in the basement. Any leftover bricks and other debris will be taken to Hoopeston's landfill at the city-negotiated fee of \$46 per ton.

At the landfill, the waste will be profiled, said Rich Galloway, operations manager for Republic Services, landfill owner. That means its location will be mapped and recorded in case in the future, some part of the debris becomes suspect, he said.

The Glynn proposal is based on 120 tons of debris to go to the landfill.

Other proposals received were from Burhmester Construction, Watseka, \$14,150 for 120 tons; Silver Brothers of Hoopeston, \$16,990 for 150 tons; and \$29,800 from ARD Farms, Wellington, for 100 tons.

The building was purchased by William Thomas, of Hoopeston, at a 2016 tax auction. Thomas paid \$600 plus filing fees for the structure. At a civic improvement committee meeting last week, he said he had planned to open an electronics store there.

Asked at the committee meeting whether he objected to the city taking over demolition, Thomas said he did not. "I'll probably sleep better at night," he said. "I get scared whenever a train goes by."

Told the city plans to hold him liable for the costs, Thomas answered, "I'll do the best I can."

At Monday's meeting, officials said they hope to work out a contract that will allow Thomas to make ongoing

payments until the debt is repaid. Should that fail, there are other options the city may take, such as filing a lien against the property or using a state debt recovery program, which would allow the city to be repaid with  
See DEMOLITION on other side



Photo contributed  
An aerial view shows the inside of 105 E. Main after the roof caved in on October 11.

**Pasta Dinner**  
Hoopeston First Presbyterian Church  
915 E. Orange  
Pasta-Salad-Bread-Drink-Dessert  
Friday, Nov. 3 4:30-7:30 p.m.  
Dine in, carry out or in-town delivery- 283-6229  
Adults \$8•Ages 3-8 \$4•Under 3 free  
Check out our GREATER GIFT SALE

**VINTAGE BAZAAR**  
Saturday, Nov. 4 8 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
209 W. Jones, Milford

<b>Mom's Kitchen</b> Freshly-baked Cinnamon Rolls, Breads, Cookies, Candles, Canned Goods, Baked Goods, Unique Treats	<b>HANDMADE ITEMS/ANTIQUES</b> Family Fun! Nana's Attic Paper Palace Serendipity! Children's Corner Holiday Happenings
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**DACC Higher Learning Center - Hoopeston**  
Spring 2018 Registration  
begins October 30, 2017  
Advising and Counseling - November 21, 9 a.m.-noon  
Call to make your appointment.

**Creative Decorative Satin Bows**  
Tuesdays, Nov. 28 & Dec. 5 from 6-8 pm.  
\$25 plus \$10 material fee

**The Mixed Decades - 1960s**  
Tom Sweeney Lecture Series  
Wednesday, Nov. 29 from 6-8 p.m.  
\$12 (includes dessert)

**All In One Day**  
December 8, 9 a.m.-3p.m.  
Orientation / Placement Testing / Registration /  
Financial Aid / Trio / Advising and Counseling  
Call for more information and to register!  
Call 217-283-4170, stop by 847 E. Orange, Hoopeston,  
or visit [www.dacc.edu/hoopeston](http://www.dacc.edu/hoopeston)



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## Letters to the Editor

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### *Patriot's Club gives big thanks*

Hoopeston Patriot's Club would like to thank the community for the great turnout for our Big Breakfast. We appreciate the support from people like you. We are starting our new club and proceeds will go for startup costs.

If you would like to be a part of our organization, please contact the bartender at the VFW for applications.

Dues are only \$40 a year. We are here to support the VFW and other organizations that may need our help. Meetings are every fourth Tuesday of the month. You don't need to be in the military to join. The only requirements are to help support the needs of the club and in helping support the needs of others.

Again, thank you for your great support.

The Hoopeston Patriot's Club

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## From the Blotter

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A **50-year-old** Texas woman reported at 12:12 p.m. Monday that someone entered her home in the 500 block of South Market and took several items.

**No tickets or injuries** were reported in an accident at 12:49 p.m. Monday in the 200 block of East Main.

Police said Donald Stebbins, 53, of Hoopeston, backed a 2006 Pontiac Torrent from a parking space. As he was doing so, Michele Vandenberg-Leppard, 65, also of Hoopeston, began to back up a 2014 GMC Terrain, col-

iding with Stebbins.

**Aaron Cannon**, 26, of Hoopeston, was arrested after a traffic stop due to improper registration at 10:44 p.m. Monday at First Ave. and Penn.

He was charged with improper registration, operating an uninsured motor vehicle and possession of methamphetamine and was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

### *Demolition* continued from other side

state tax refunds Thomas might get.

Ald. Bill McElhaney, civic improvement committee chairman, said how the city handles this incident will set precedent for others, as Hoopeston has other dilapidated buildings that could collapse and he wants to make sure owners of those buildings know that while the city will mitigate an emergency, the costs associated with are ultimately the responsibility of the building owners.

Where the city will get the money for the project is unclear. McElhaney spoke of the difficult cuts that were made to balance this year's budget, a budget that did not include demolition costs.

Ald. Bill Goodwine, finance committee chair, said the structure is in one of the city's tax increment financing (TIF) districts. Demolition costs are allowed to be paid with TIF as long as the demolition is for economic development, Goodwine said, adding he will check with the city's TIF advisor.

Officials again lamented the practice of purchasing buildings at tax auctions. Buyers "aren't going to walk in and buy a building for \$600 and have a gold mine," said Ald. Brandon Hamilton.

"The thing is, even if he hadn't bought the building, the same thing would have happened," said Mayor Bill Crusinberry.

Glynn is expected to begin tearing down the building

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## Briefly

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### Maple Madness winners

The final Maple Madness fundraiser winner of \$500 is Lisa Buckley of Champaign.

### Fall Family Festival

Maple School will hold a Fall Family Festival from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 2. Events will include a petting zoo, farm sensory bin, Feed the Pig, photo booth, Lasso the Horse, cookie walk, pedal tractor race, Barnyard Bingo, Cattle Corral, spoon race, line dancing, Pin the Tires on the Tractor and snacks.

### Birthday open house

A birthday open house for Joe Means, who is celebrating his 90th birthday, will be held from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 5 at the First Baptist Church gym. No gifts, please.

### At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include:

**Builders Club**, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Thursday. A time for kids in grades K-5 to build cool stuff!

soon. A permit application and fee must be sent to the Illinois EPA, postmarked 24 hours before demolition starts. Also Glyn will have to provide the city with bond and insurance information, Crusinberry said.

In unrelated discussion, Goodwine told the council that the city will have to a significant increase in the tax levy for police pensions.

For several years, information sent to the Illinois Department of Insurance showed Hoopeston had no retired police officers or widows of retired officers. That meant state records showed Hoopeston's police pension fund was over-funded.

However, once the mistake was identified about three years ago, the estimated overage became an underfunded account, Goodwine said.

Last year, \$142,000 was paid into the pension fund. This year, the amount will be \$192,000 to help catch up.

Because the amount of the increase will be more than five percent, the city will have to hold a public hearing before the levy is approved, Goodwine said.

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## Weather

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Mostly cloudy today. High 48. Tonight, showers likely. Low 47. Tomorrow,, chance of showers. High 64, low 44.

**Tiny Tots**, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Friday. For youngsters 0-4 who are accompanied by a caregiver.



**Smoked BBQ**  
at  
**Rossville Family Restaurant**  
715 S. Chicago  
**Lunch & Dinner**  
**Saturday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**Pulled Pork Butt, Pork Ribs & Beef Sirloin**

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## Classifieds

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### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

2 BR, many updates, second floor. \$400/mo. Call (217) 283-7439.

### HELP WANTED

Church secretary, part time (20 hrs./wk.) Successful candidate will have a heart for Ministry, ability to multi-task and have excellent communications skills. Must have flexibility, strong secretarial skills, attention to detail and be proficient in MS Office and Apple. Successful candidate will provide polite and professional assistance via phone, mail and e-mail and bring a helpful, positive presence to the church office. Must have high school diploma and prior secretarial experience. No phone calls. Send resume to First Church of God, 1012 E. Orange, Hoopeston IL 60942. .

### MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Like-new queen size adjustable bed. Reverie wireless control. Head and foot raise and lower, with massage. Perfect condition. \$1,000. Call Richard Birkey, (217) 495-0011.

### NOTICES

The City of Hoopeston is now accepting bids for perpetual care grave blankets for Floral Hill Cemetery. Specifications may be picked up at City Hall, Monday-Friday, from 7 a.m.-4 p.m.

Bids will be opened on November 7, 2017 at 10 a.m. in the Hoopeston Municipal Building. All bids must include a sample of blanket to be used.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive technicalities.

Gail Lane  
City Clerk

Email [publish@justthefacts.net](mailto:publish@justthefacts.net)  
or call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad!