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Just the Facts *Lourdine Florek, Owner*
Thursday, March 7, 2019
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

New playground equipment in, installation date not yet set

Playground equipment to replace that destroyed last year has been delivered, Ald. Alex Houmes announced at Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting.

On October 20, high winds blew a large tree on the previous equipment. The council unanimously approved purchasing a green and brown "Sherwood" system, featuring an Arched Loop Ladder, Double Wilder slide II, Quick S Tube Slide, Triple Slide and Xcelerator.

Priced at more than \$100,000, GameTime approved a \$50,400 grant towards the purchase of the new system. The city also expected to receive \$50,000, the amount for which the previous system was insured when it was installed in 2003.

Houmes said he was "not going to set a deadline just now" on when the new features will be installed. He added a consultant will come in to assist in the layout, which should make the process smoother than when new play equipment was installed in Cheese Park. Employees will do the installation, he said.

In other discussion, Ald. Carl Ankenbrand, regarding a report at the previous meeting on Prairie Meadows II, asked if a breakdown was given showing how many Hoopeston residents have moved into the de-

velopment.

Mayor Bill Crusinberry said that information was not provided but should be available and that he would request and share it with the council.

During the public comment portion, resident Stan Steiner came back to Prairie Meadows, saying that in doing the math on numbers published in Just the Facts on property tax on the houses, "they're not near what they ought to be for new houses."

Crusinberry said because investors in the project receive tax credits, a different formula is used to determine property taxes. That will expire after 20 years, he said.

"I'm paying three times that much," Steiner responded. "I know 'fair' is what you pay to ride the bus," but still..."

- In other business:
- Ankenbrand announced a fire committee meeting will be held at 5 p.m. Monday at city hall to work on the department budget.
 - He also reported that about 40 Cash Bash tickets are still available for the Firemen's Ball.
 - Ald. Chad Yaden said grave cleanup will begin March 8.

From the Blotter

John H. Kincade, 53, of Watseka, was arrested after he was seen driving at 6:30 a.m. Tuesday. Located at Casey's General Store, 115 E Orange, he was charged with driving while license suspended and possession of methamphetamine and also on an Iroquois County warrant for theft or control of stolen property.

Kincade was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 4:11 p.m. Tuesday in the 700 block of South First Ave.

Police said Terrance Irvin, 25, of Hoopeston, in a 2002

Jeep, turned off of First Ave. and struck a parked 2007 Chevrolet utility vehicle owned by Jess Woods, also of Hoopeston.

Police are investigating a damaged vehicle reported at 1:46 p.m. Tuesday. A 51-year-old Hoopeston woman said her vehicle was damaged in the 600 block of South Fourth St.

Sawyer Neal, 25, of Hoopeston, was arrested after he was stopped for a traffic violation at 7:33 p.m. Tuesday at Third St. and Main. He was charged with driving while license suspended and was released on a notice to appear in Vermilion County traffic court.

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Letters to the Editor

Teaching by example

Thirteen stripes for thirteen colonies; white stripes representing purity and innocence, red stripes representing valor and bravery. Fifty stars representing the 50 United States of America on a blue background representing vigilance, perseverance, and justice. The American Flag. The Pledge of Allegiance, which as we know it is recited before our flag in many different situations, but is not part of our constitution.



When I look at the flag and recite the pledge, I am thankful to live in the land of the free and I am thankful for all the brave souls who have served, are serving, and will serve US AS A NATION so that we may remain a free country. Standing during the Pledge before the flag, in my opinion, simply shows respect and the world always needs more respect.

Maybe you do not have the same opinion about the flag and Pledge and that is your right. Maybe you do not see the respect of simply standing for the Pledge and that is also your right. This has always been and always will be a very passionate subject which so often creates division, however, we should at least be able to have dialogue without cursing and insulting.

Within the school district curriculum, it is stated

Shops, restaurants join forces for Milford Market preview

A preview of the Milford Market will be held Friday and Saturday, March 15-16. Local shops will be open for customers to shop sales and view new spring merchandise on Friday from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Local restaurants will have specials available,

that in all schools citizenship values must be taught. This includes such things as patriotism, principles of freedom, justice, and equality, proper use and display of the American flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, and voting process.

True, some of these are taught in specific classes, but some, such as the Pledge and display of the flag, are taught through visual display and by example.

I happen to believe a teacher has the responsibility to teach in many ways including teaching by example. I taught full-time for nine years at the Community College level and continue to teach at that level as a part-time instructor. Leading by example is something I personally implement into my own teaching style.

too. Please contact individual businesses for their hours and specials.

Shops participating in the Preview include The Blossom Basket, GLAM, Sugar Creek Boutique, Town & Country Events, and Affordable Arts Boutique and Custom Creations.

Restaurants participating are Bert's Place, Bearcat Corner Grill, I Don't Care Grill and Chill, and Milford Family Restaurant.

Obituaries

WALTER - George Matthew Walter, 95, of Hoopeston, formerly of Rossville, died at 3:40 p.m. Sunday, March 3, 2019 at Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center. Visitation will be 11 a.m. until the 1 p.m. funeral Friday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston, with military rites by Hoopeston American Legion Post #384. He will be cremated after the service. Memorials are suggested to Rossville United Methodist church, 116 Maple St., Rossville IL 60963 or Land of Lincoln Honor Flight, 57 Country Place, Springfield IL 62703.

Weather

Snow likely today. High 29. Tonight, snow, wintry mix. Low 26. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 39, low 29.



Say you saw it in

Just the Facts

Not standing for the Pledge while in the presence of students does not support teaching by example and in fact, directly goes against the content of the district curriculum. If certain subject matter is part of a district's curriculum, I'm not sure how any teacher can pick and choose what they will and will not teach.

Kasey Moore

Hoopeston

Letters to the Editor policy

Just the Facts welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be signed by the writer and must include a daytime phone number for verification. Letters must be in good taste and of general interest to readers. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters may be mailed to P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942, or emailed to publish@justthefacts.net.

Classifieds

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We are currently hiring for our Verizon location next to McDonald's in Hoopeston! If you're interested in a career in sales where you can earn a base plus commission, this position just might be for you. The successful candidate will love sales and technology and have a competitive spirit. Position has hourly base, commission package and awesome benefits. Email resume to seth@alstiremart.com or stop by the store for more information.

The City of Hoopeston is now accepting applications for Seasonal Employees for several of our departments. Applications are available at City Hall, 301 W Main St. Hoopeston.

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