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Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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Assessor lists exemptions to help property owners save on taxes

Susie Drollinger, Grant-Butler Multi Township Assessor, wants local property owners to take advantage of every exemption they're entitled to take. While some, like the general homestead exemption, are well known, others are not. To help taxpayers, Drollinger has listed available exemptions, most of which can be filed in her office in the Grant Township building, 525 S. Market,

Drollinger suggested property owners filed the necessary paperwork by October 31.

The list of exemptions and how often property owners must file for them includes;

General Homestead Exemption - A one-time signup, unless the owner moves, this exemption is available for residential property occupied by its owner(s) as the principal dwelling place or that is a leasehold interest on which a single-family residence is situated, which is occupied by a person who has an ownership interest there. It may also be claimed by someone leasing the property if that person is responsible for paying the property taxes. Lease forms are available at the Supervisor of Assessments office in Danville.

Senior Citizen Freeze Homestead Exemption - also called the Senior Citizen Freeze, must be filed yearly. It is for those ages 65 or older, with a total household income of \$65,000 or less. Proof of income is required. The exemption freezes the assessed value as long as the senior qualifies for the it. It does not freeze the tax bill.

Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption - A one-time signup is required for this, which is for people 65 or older who are liable for the property taxes on the property and are the owners of record of the property or have an equitable interest.

Homestead Exemption for Persons with Disabilities - must be filed annually and provides a \$2,000 deduction in the equalized assessed valuation (EAV) of the primary residence owned and occupied by a person with a disability. The person by be liable for paying property taxes. Proof of disability is required.

Standard Homestead Exemption for Veterans with **Disabilities** - available to qualified veterans with a service-connected disability, it provides a reduction in EAV based on percentage of disability: \$2,500 for 30 percent to under 50 percent; \$5,000 if 50 percent but less than 70 percent; and 70 percent or more, the property is exempt from taxation. Forms must be filed annually.

Phone/Fax: (217) 283-9348

Lourdine Florek, Owner

A surviving spouse of a disabled veteran who has died may continue receiving the exemption as long as he or she reside and hold legal title to the primary residence and have not remarried.

Returning Veterans Homestead Exemption - availa-See TAXES on other side

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New Books at the Library

Children's Room **Picture Books**

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Fiction

Dragon Land, by Stephanie Bendixsen (J-E) Seeing red, by Sarah Mlynowski (J-E) Mighty Truck. Zip and Beep, by Chris Barton (JJF) Louise and the Class Pet, by Laura Driscoll (JJF) Syd Hoff's Danny and the Dinosaur The Big Sneeze, by Bruce Hale (JJF) Blaire, by Jennifer Castle (American Girl) (J)

Squirm, by Carl Hiaasen (J) Astrid the Unstoppable, by Maria Parr (J) The Collectors, by Jacqueline West (J)

Graphic Novels

Brawl of the Wild, by Dav Pilkey

Nonfiction

Timelines of Everything I Wish I Was a Polar Bear, by Jennifer Bovei'

From the Blotter

Tyler C. Griffin, 28, of Hoopeston, was arrested after a stop for a traffic violation at 6:01 p.m. Sunday in the 500 block of East Chestnut. He was charged with display of false registration, possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia and was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

Taxes continued from other side

ble to a veteran's principal residents upon returning from active duty in an armed conflict involving the Armed Forces of the United States. It is available for two consecutive years; the year the veteran returns from active duty in an armed conflict and the following year.

Homestead Improvement Exemption - Any room addition or rebuilding after a catastrophic event will be exempt for four years from the day of the improvement or rebuilding is completed and occupied.

Natural Disaster Homestead Exemption - available on a homestead property for a rebuilt residential structure following a widespread natural disaster.

Non-Homestead Exemption for Religious, Charitable or Education Organizations - properties of religious, charitable and educational organizations, as well as units of federal, state and local governments, are eligible for exemption from property taxes to the extent provided by law. The organization must apply with the county Board of Review, which reviews and forwards the application to the Illinois Department of Revenue for a final administrative decision. The exemption must be renewed yearly. For information, contact the County Board of Review in Danville. (Note: religious organizations do not need to file this exemption anymore).

For more information or answers to questions, people may call Drollinger's office at (217) 283-6868.

Weather

Sunny today. High 49. Tonight, mostly cloudy, chance of showers. Low 39. Tomorrow, showers likely. High 58, low 54.



Classifieds

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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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