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Above, City of Hoopeston personnel and Republic Services employees wait for the start of the first bulk garbage collection Saturday at Hoopeston City Hall. Left, some of the items brought to the collection.

First city bulk garbage collection goes off without a hitch

Several Hoopeston residents got rid of unwanted items at Saturday's bulk garbage collection at city hall.

"We unloaded 28 vehicles," said Ald. Bill Goodwine, who was onsite at the collection from before its 6 a.m. start until after it ended at noon.

Goodwine was joined by city employees Pete Neal and Don Stebbins helping unload and Trish Stebbins and Dawn Layden, who checked identifications and handled paperwork.

A driver from Republic Services also spent the morning at the site, in case the dumpster was filled and had to be replaced. Items were compacted in the dumpster to keep it from overflowing; a second was not needed.

When not working, Goodwine and the others often stayed in a tent set up to keep the sun off them during last weekend's excessive heat warning.

The item most thrown away was mattresses. One person got rid of six, Goodwine said.

Goodwine had no complaints about the event, but did have praise for city employees. "Watching our employees not only work, but how they treated people in such a friendly, nice and professional manner, reminded me again what dedicated employees we have," he said.

"I think the economics are working out quite well," he added.

In a new contract between Republic Services and Hoopeston, bulk pickup - which had been provide as part of the previous contract - was going to add \$76,000 to the annual cost, which would have been passed on to residents as an additional \$3 per month on their garbage bills.

See GARBAGE on other side

Bertha's

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By
BERTHA PARSONS

You are My Sunshine

When I held my first baby, he was indeed my Sunshine, He was so good, he slept and ate without incident and smiled all the time. Seems like now that he is all grown up, he probably doesn't want to hear it that much. Being an only child, I was my Mother's Sunshine. I bet many of you were and still are someone's Sunshine.

It is awesome to stir up Sunshine by just letting someone know they have done a good job. They made a difference at the office or in the factory. When working for 30+ years in sales, I learned that being recognized for one's effort was better than any prize. It was the prize!

We all get so preoccupied with Facebook, Twitter, video games or e-mails that the real world of real people we know and love seems to disappear. We don't mean to do it and yet the delight in hearing a real voice or seeing that person at the store, restaurant or at home is what real Sunshine is all about.

A few days ago we celebrated a birthday with family, friends and much fanfare! We talked, laughed and ate. We promised to keep in touch more.

For that day my Sunshine of persons was glowing! Why had I not told them before how important they were? This is a question I ask myself often when I let my Sunshine grow dim.

What makes you or anyone we know our Sunshine? Is it their charm, or how nice they dress, or maybe because they bake the best apple pie I've even eaten? Are they especially kind and cheerful, do they just have a glow about them?

My grandsons would say, "Gramma, you're talking crazy." Which I do quite often! All three of them are my Sunshine. They keep me on my toes, and they love my letters to them. That's crazy good!

I sure hope each of you have someone that is YOUR SUNSHINE. We all need one or more. Take a few minutes, OK, maybe half an hour, and make a list of people who are your Sunshine. Then call, write, or stop over to let them know they are your Sunshine.

For me, my family is first, then I have eight special friends, plus all of you readers are my Sunshine. You give me the spark to keep going! Have a sunny day!

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Correction

It was incorrectly reported in Tuesday's issue that Lauren Sheppard was ticketed for no insurance after an accident Thursday. Israel Layden, the other driver involved in the accident, was ticketed for the offense. Just the Facts regrets the error.

Obituaries

DeLAHR - Robert Eugene DeLahr, 65, died July 15, 2019 in Hoopeston. No service will be held. Rortvedt Funeral Services and Crematory, Tilton, is handling arrangements.

GARRETT - Randall Glen Garrett, 70, of Milford, died Sunday, July 21, 2019 at home. Visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Thursday at Milford Christian Church. Funeral will be at 2 p.m. Friday at the church. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery with military rites by Watseka American Legion and Iroquois County VFW posts. Memorials are suggested to Glen Garrett Memorial Fund or donor's choice. Knapp Funeral Home, Milford, is handling arrangements.

Garbage continued from other side

Goodwine, who is chairman of the city's finance committee, suggested a trial communal collection where residents could take bulk items for disposal. The idea was approved by the city council.

The first site - the soccer fields on South Sixth Ave. - did not work well as it was used by non-city residents and banned items were put in the dumpster.

The council then decided to change the location to city hall and hold a collection the first and third Saturdays of each month.

"Some may not like having to deliver bulk trash to a central site rather than the convenience of having it picked up, but I like the fact that we are keeping our dollars local," Goodwine said. "We are paying Hoopeston employees rather than out-of-town truck drivers to provide an outlet for bulk garbage."

Based on Saturday's event, Goodwin said he will suggest to the council that the hours be cut from 6 a.m.-noon to 8 a.m.-noon.

The next collection will be held August 3.

Weather

Becoming sunny today. High 81. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 57. Tomorrow, sunny. High 84, low 61.

Classifieds

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