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Thursday, September 26, 2019
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BBQ dinner to help fund Christian Church mission work

Come out to First Christian Church in Hoopeston to enjoy a scrumptious barbeque dinner from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, September 28.

Order a barbecue pulled pork sandwich for \$7 and a barbecue brisket sandwich for \$10.

Each dinner includes cole slaw, cowboy beans and corn bread. Barbeque is being prepared by Bill Lind's BBQ4U.

Carry-out or dine-in at the fellowship hall of First Christian Church at 502 E. Main St.

If the day is sunshiny, BBQ4U will be set up in the parking lot, and Lind will serve food hot off the grill.

All proceeds will help meet the expenses of the 2020

mission trip sponsored by First Christian Church.

In June, youth and adult leaders spent a week in Detroit, Mich., working on several different projects with the Rippling Hope Ministries. They worked on a variety of jobs at residential sites in Detroit which consisted of painting, cleaning fence lines, and minor home repairs. They hope to return and make a difference in people's lives for whom some assistance is needed, and build new friendships.

Please come to First Christian Church Saturday to enjoy a barbeque dinner while supporting a worthwhile cause.

Thank you for your support!



Under wraps

As some people wait in line to meet Chicago Cubs legend Kerry Wood at Bricks and Ivy, others look at merchandise in the store's street sale. Wood, one of many famous athletes who have come to Bricks and Ivy to meet fans and sign autographs, was in Hoopeston on September 7. The next autograph session will feature Carl Edwards Jr. on October 5.

Bill & Susan McGee
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Letters to the Editor

Is anyone representing taxpayers?

I attended the July Hoopeston School Board meeting after reading that nearly \$200,000 was being spent without a bidding process. I was told at the meeting that because the expense was for technology, they were not required to put anything out for bid. My response - you may not be required to do it, but that does not mean you can't do it. Why wouldn't a taxing body do something to save taxpayers a few thousand dollars if they could?

At the same meeting, though, there appeared to be some confusion on administrator salary pay increases - I witnessed the same board vote to give hefty pay increases to administrators. No discussion, no mention in the motion of the total dollar amount of the increase - be it by specific dollars or percentage. No question as to where administrator salary expenses were in the existing budget. No discussion of dollar amounts - but that budgetary discussion had to happen somewhere. No discussion on how fat Hoopeston School District already is with administrator expenses - but that is a topic for later.

Just make a motion to spend in the dark - and levy more taxpayer dollars to cover the upcoming budget year salary

expense.

More importantly, there was no discussion on the long-term impact of hefty administrator salary increases and the long-term impact with pension cost liabilities - but hey - who is thinking ahead long term about taxpayer pension liabilities?

And then to see the school board vote to approve the salary increases and a definite conflict of interest and not even an abstention from the vote - and not a word from the board president or any board member. My question again, "How are taxpayers to know how much money is being spent on expenses when no dollar figures were in the motion or in the approved minutes? Why hide the dollar amount?"

When I contacted the Attorney General in Springfield, I was told the school board was not required to include the dollar amount of the raise in the motion or the minutes. Again - how are taxpayers supposed to know how their tax dollars are being spent? And again - just because they are not required to include the dollar or percentage amount of the salary increase in the motion to approve, does not mean they can't be open and include the specific

amount in the motion. If taxing bodies are not ashamed to request more taxpayers dollars each year, and raise taxes each year - then at least own up and be open to how they spend taxpayer dollars.

Politicians run on transparency in government to get elected and then have a problem with transparency after sworn in the position.

Before taxing bodies like the Hoopeston School Board start asking for more money from taxpayers in a sales tax increase, start out being open with how you are spending - or abusing - the money you are already receiving.

Jim Hurt
Wellington

Rep. Bennett announces
106th district photo contest

State Rep. Tom Bennett has launched a photo contest for residents his district.

Winning photos in the "Hometown in the Heartland" 106th District Photo Contest will be displayed in offices in the district and in Springfield.

As Bennett has traveled the district, meeting people and attending events "has made me want to showcase these special times through a contest where participants can capture the splendor of our area through the lenses of their cameras," he said.

Photographers and subject matter is limited to the district, a map of which may be found at <https://repbennett.com/district/>. Photographers may submit up to 3 entries by the deadline of 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25. Participants should include their name, phone number and location where the photo was taken with each entry. Entries should be emailed to repbennettphotos@yahoo.com.

For additional information, call Bennett's Springfield office at (217) 558-1039.

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 4:57 p.m. Tuesday for a Schwan's transport truck that had developed a leak in its propane tank system. Police also responded to the call.

No injuries were reported at the time of the incident.

Weather

Sunny today. High 74. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 56. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High 83, low 63.

Classifieds

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HELP WANTED

Hoopeston IGA is accepting applications for Produce Department Manager. Apply instore at 1030 W. Chestnut, Hoopeston

Sygma is hiring Class A CDL drivers. Experienced drivers with clean records could qualify for a \$12,500 sign on bonus. Sygma is also looking for students for their CDL school. You must be 21 and have your Class A permit to be eligible. We have part time and seasonal work available as well. Go to www.sygmanetwork.com or call 855-770-3210

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Hoopeston Multi-Agency is accepting applications for a part-time position in our thrift shop. Please stop by 206 S. First Ave. and pick up an application in the front office. HMA is also looking for volunteers to assist in the thrift shop. You can earn HMA bucks that you may use to purchase items in our thrift shop.

Part time fall help at Ravens Livestock. Call (217) 304-1943.

Looking for a housecleaner. Once a week. 5 hours. If interested, please email your name, phone number, hourly rate, and 3 references to cleaner60942@yahoo.com

RUMMAGE SALES

MILFORD: 206 E. Hickory. Thurs., Fri., Sat., 8-? Barbies, Jim Shore décor, household, tools, glassware, lots of everything!

HOOPESTON: 812 E. Lincoln. Fri., 8-1. Large amount of tools, small amount of household items & other misc.

ROSSVILLE: 212 E. McKibben. Fri., 9-6, Sat., 9-3. Household items, new and used, lots of clothing, girls teen clothing.

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