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# Just the Facts

**Tuesday, December 10, 2019**

*Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!*

P. O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

Phone/Fax: (217) 283-9348  
 Lourdine Florek, Owner

[www.justthefacts.net](http://www.justthefacts.net)

## New year to bring remediation work to former foundry; demo partners needed

As Christmas nears, residents may notice big equipment being parked at Vermilion Iron Works, 220 N. Sixth Ave., said Harry Brockus, of Hoopeston Land Improvements, Inc.

Hoopeston Land Improvements, Inc., is not affiliated with, but has the same directors, as Hoopeston Retirement Village Foundation, he said.

That equipment is not part of a plan to get the foundry up and running, but rather will be used for asbestos abatement at the former foundry, bringing it one step closer to demolition.

An Indiana company has been hired to remove asbestos. Work is set to begin January 6, 2020, and is expected to take six to eight weeks. The work will cost \$180,000.

Brockus is looking for partners for the costliest aspect of the project: demolishing the foundry and returning the land to the city as a park.

The price tag for total demolition is \$650,000," a cost "far higher than even I was expecting," he said.

The final piece will be to work with the Environment Protection Agency to close out the landfill at the site. An environmental study on the property shows slag - junk metal from the foundry process - in the soil. Brockus said ground would rank as a low level landfill, by EPA standards.

Vermilion Iron began in 1907 and in 1946, was purchased by Deere & Co., to manufacture malleable iron castings for its equipment. John Deere Malleable Iron Works became Vermilion Iron Corps when it sold and the name was changed in 1976. It became



*File photo*  
 The former Vermilion Iron Works foundry was idled in 2013. A local corporation is paying for asbestos remediation and will then look for partners for demolition, at a cost of \$650,000.

Vermilion Iron Works in 1993.

The plant closed in February 2007. In April 2007, a Chicago investor purchased it and Vermilion Iron Works was back in business, albeit on a smaller scale. It closed again when Packard Engineering disbanded.

In 2013, it was sold to BS of Hoopeston, Inc., at a tax sale and was sold to Hoopeston Land Improvements on July 6, 2018.

Hoopeston Land Improvements was formed in April 2018, according to Illinois Secretary of State corpora-

tion information.

It was to shield Hoopeston Retirement Village Foundation from the liability that might be associated with the Vermilion Iron project, Brockus said.

Illinois Secretary of State corporation information currently shows the corporation was involuntarily dissolved on Friday, Sept. 13, 2019.

According to Vermilion County tax information, 2018 parcel taxes of \$732.30 on the site - payable this year - were not paid and were sold.





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## Briefly

### Wreaths across America ceremony

A Wreaths across America ceremony will be held at Red Top Cemetery at 11 a.m. Saturday. Everyone is

### From the Blotter

Bailee Cannon, 20, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 5:12 p.m. Sunday in the 500 block of West Penn. Wanted on a Vermilion County warrant, she was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville in lieu of bond.

### Obituaries

**POCIALIK** - Leila Mae (Sanford) Pocialik, 99, of Centralia, formerly of Hoopeston, died Monday, Nov. 25, 2019 at SSM Health St. Mary Hospital, Centralia. Vistation was 9 a.m. until the 10 a.m. Mass on December 3. Burial followed in Floral Hill Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Floral Hill Cemetery Fund and are being accepted at Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home, 235 North Sycamore Street Centralia, Illinois 62801 which handled arrangements. Condolences may be made at [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com)

welcome to attend.

### Holiday concert

Doc Ashton and the Root Canals will be in concert at 2 p.m. Sunday Milford United Methodist Church, 118 N. Axtel Ave. Everyone is invited.

The performance is sponsored by the Little Jordan Cluster of United Methodist Churches.

### Leaf cleanup ended

Monday was the last day for Hoopeston street and alley workers to pick up leaves. Residents who still have leaves may take them to the city slab.

### Carle Cissna Park closed for repairs

As crews fix issues caused by leaking pipes, Carle Cissna Park patients can receive needed care at the Milford location. Aaron McCray, APN, plans to see patients at 322 N Chicago St., Milford, through Dec. 17. Carle is calling Cissna Park patients with appointments Dec. 9 – 17 to alert them to the location change. Cissna Park patients who need an appointment during that time should call (815) 889-4011.

### Card shower

Former Hoopeston resident Terry Meador is very ill and friends are holding a cheer or Christmas card shower for them. Cards may be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Terry Meador, P.O. Box 182, Collison IL 61831. Prayers would also be appreciated.

### Koffee & Konversation

Come join us at Hoopeston Methodist for Koffee & Konversation! We start at 8:30 a.m. every Tuesday with coffee and donuts or rolls. There is always laughter and sometimes some very interesting conversation. We do not meet on holidays or during blizzards, ice storms or -10 degree days. All are welcome.

### At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include: **Homeschool Happenings**, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Tuesday. All area homeschool parents and kids welcome. Crafts and other activities for kids of all ages included.

**Stitchin' Time**, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Wednesday. Crochet instruction provided. Other needle crafters welcome.

**Wild and Wacky Games**, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Thursday. For kids of all ages.

### Weather

Partly sunny today. High 40. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 29. Tomorrow mostly sunny. High 42, low 27.

**Daniel Tiger: Snowflake Day** family movie, 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday. Movie, activities, free book (while supplies last) and milk and cookies.

**Littles @ the Library** will not be held Friday.

For information on library programs, call (217) 283-6711.

### Court Dispositions

#### November 7

**Darrell Estes**, Milford, pleaded not guilty to disobeying police; trial December 5.

**Darrell Estes**, Milford, pleaded not guilty to criminal damage to property; trial December 5.

**Iris Gray**, Hoopeston, status check December 5.

Timothy E. Coon Jr., Hoopeston, case sent to state for further enforcement.

## Classifieds

### APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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Silgan Containers is hiring press line mechanics. For more information or to apply, please go online to [silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/10377/0](http://silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/10377/0)

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](http://www.sygmanetwork.com) or call 855-770-3210

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