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502 E Main St (217) 283-6691

Services:
Saturdays 5:30 PM
Sundays 10:00 AM

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HOOPESTON AREA SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
Registration
February 29 Noon-2 p.m.
Fast Lanes
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Just the Facts Lourdine Florek, Owner
Thursday, February 27, 2020
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Smiley to speak at HAMS 2020 Family Connection Night

Hoopeston Area Middle School is hosting the 2020 Hoopeston Area Family Connection Night for the entire community from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, March 5.

The evening will begin in the Hoopeston Area High School Auditorium with renowned local author, speaker and TV/radio host, Kendra Smiley, giving a keynote address. She will talk about how we can build the best community possible by tapping into strong Hoopeston area families.

Free hotdogs, chips and drink will be provided for the first 100 in attendance for the



SMILEY

evening.

This event is part of our continued dedication to improve our community's schools.

From 6:45 to 8 p.m., immediately following the keynote speaker, Hoopeston Area Middle School families can attend informational sessions on topics like internet safety and high school readiness. Local community organizations will present information. Prizes will be available for attendees.

For more information, contact Hoopeston Area Middle School Assistant Principal, Steve Chorak at 217-283-6664.



Photo submitted

What's in the bag?

Hoopeston illusionist Randy Shields performs an illusion for Teen Reach participants at Hoopeston Area Middle School. The after-school program provides homework help, tutoring, life skills and recreational and other activities for youngsters ages 10-17.

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Letters to the Editor

HEA president urges support for sales tax

We have a lot of good things going for us in Hoopeston Area schools -- but they could be better.

Heat dismissals the last several years have cut into instructional time in August and September, the most important time of the year for establishing classroom routines and procedures; those late starts and early dismissals often leave parents in the lurch, too. Even on days in session, classroom temperatures can climb into the 80s. Those high temperatures can hamper students' attention spans and learning. While it's difficult to imagine 20 or more second graders crammed into a classroom for 8 hours, soaring temperatures make it sound near-nightmarish.

It's no secret that buildings in our district are aging. Our elementary buildings run without air conditioning; step into the middle school or high school and you'll find well-maintained, immaculately clean, and ultimately outdated facilities. While our incredible staff and administrators do an excellent job with the infrastructure that we have, we could do better.

There is a solution. Make the drive to Champaign County -- or Edgar, Piatt, Douglas, Christian, Macon --

and you'll find shining examples of the work that districts can do for students when they have the funding available to them. Over half the counties in Illinois have passed a referendum to fund schools. In March, voters in Vermilion County will see a referendum for a 1% sales tax. Proceeds from this tax are only able to be used by districts on buildings and grounds and student safety initiatives. School districts in counties that have passed that 1% sales tax referendum, known as the County School Facilities Sales Tax (CSFT), have managed to provide demonstrably better facilities for their students: state-of-the-art science labs, larger and more accommodating classrooms and buildings, air conditioning.

And a sales tax is a fair tax -- especially this one. Cars, agricultural equipment, groceries, medicine: none of these necessities are taxed. But if someone from Indiana, Champaign, Paxton, or even Chicago swings by Danville's new casino next year, their taxes will fund our students. This money also stays out of the hand of the state; local Regional Offices of Education dole out the tax funds to districts in the county on a per-student basis.

You might take a trip down Route 9 and see Paxton-Buckley-Loda's new elementary building. Ford County

hasn't passed the CSFT, so the PBL school district funded that expansion through a property tax levy. According to a recent study, over 90% of districts in counties that have passed a CSFT have used those funds to mitigate property tax increases or to fund projects that would have otherwise necessitated an increase in property taxes. While passing that sales tax measure here in Vermilion County doesn't mean there won't ever be a property tax hike, it does mean that our district has more flexibility before having to consider raising taxes on property own-

ers -- not only would a 1% sales tax mean better facilities for our students, but it could also keep your property tax bill lower!

Vote "yes" for the County School Facilities Tax on March 17th. It might take your McDonald's fountain soda from \$1.07 to \$1.08, but it will help provide and maintain for the nearly 1,200 students that call Hoopeston Area home -- and I think that's worth a penny.

Dylan Swank
President, Hoopeston Education Association

Weather

Partly sunny today. High 30. Tonight, chance of flurries. Low 19. Tomorrow, cloudy. High 29, low 16.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.

Obituaries

DROLLINGER—Ralph "Pee Wee" Drollinger, 87, of Hoopeston, died at 7:20 p.m. Monday, Feb. 24, 2020, at home. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Area CUSD #11 will be accepting applications for summer cleaning crew. Applications may be picked up at the District Office and dropped off no later than March 20, 2020.

City of Hoopeston is accepting applications for seasonal workers. Applications may be picked up at City Hall, 301 W Main St.

City of Hoopeston Swimming Pool is accepting applications for lifeguards and assistant manager for the 2020 season. Applications are available at City Hall, 301 W. Main St. 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon-Fri.

Robinson Chiropractic, a thriving and expanding chiropractic clinic, is looking for team oriented, multi-tasking, detail-oriented people. Candidates will be trained to assist with patient care. Customer service and phone skills a must. Candidates must be enthusiastic, outgoing, positive, great with people and have an interest in natural health and wellness and be flexible as we continue to thrive and grow in offices. Send resumes to trina.keller@robchiro.com.

United Prairie-Hoopeston has opening this Spring for the following: CDL Drivers and Non-CDL. Please pick up applications at 18978 E 3850 North Rd, Hoopeston, IL 60942. For more information, please call the office, 217-888-0164 or Jordan Reese, manager, 217-918-2876.

We are currently hiring for our Verizon location next to McDonald's in Hoopeston! Are you interested in pursuing a career in sales where you can earn a base plus commission? Then this position might just be for you! If you like sales, love technology and have a competitive spirit you may have what it takes to join our amazing team! You'll use your knowledge and passion for

technology to deliver an effortless customer experience while pursuing challenging and rewarding goals! This role comes with an hourly base and commission package as well as awesome benefits. Please email your resume to seth.wilson@alstiremart.com or stop by our store for more details.

Aquality Solutions is looking for full-time delivery drivers skilled in efficiency, organization, and flexibility. Delivery Drivers will deliver bottled water and bagged salt to commercial and residential customers and must have knowledge or be willing to learn maintenance operations when not driving. Apply in person at 102 N 1st Street in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

Full-Fill Industries Henning, IL, is offering many job opportunities for full-time and part-time positions. We offer full-time positions with a full benefit package. 1st and 2nd shifts are available.

Full-Fill Industries also offers a unique opportunity to choose the schedule that fits your lifestyle. You may choose to work 1, 2, or 3 days a week. Candidates must be 18 years old, and you can pick your shift. Machine Operators are needed for 1st & 2nd shift.

We are now offering a part-time flexible work schedule for Moms & Dads who want to earn some extra cash during school hours. We are now offering an 8:00 am - 4:30 pm schedule to fit the needs of your family while your children are in school.

If you are interested in applying for a growing company, please apply on-line at www.full-fill.com go to employment or employment opportunities and apply as indicated. EOE

HOUSES FOR RENT

Upstairs duplex, 726 S. Third St., Hoopeston, Available March. 3 BR, 1 bath. \$475 plus security deposit. No pets/good references. 217-304-3477. Owner/licensed R/Est. agent.



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