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Hoopeston

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Council approves bringing cemetery records to digital age

Floral Hill records could live forever thanks to action at Tuesday evening's Hoopeston City Council meeting.

Aldermen approved spending not more than \$25,000 to digitize cemetery records and create a website that will eventually allow people to choose and pay for cemetery plots online.

Currently, cemetery information is stored in paper form, "duplications and triplications" all kept in paper format, Yaden said. Should a tornado, like the one that ripped through Nashville recently, strike Hoopeston, "all our records would probably be gone," he said.

Staffing changes in the department last year resulted in about \$40,000 paid in salaries than anticipated. Yaden would like to use some of that money to pay for digitizing the records.

Hoopeston man found guilty

DANVILLE—A Vermilion County jury has found a Hoopeston man guilty of aggravated battery with a dead-ly weapon.

Gary Johnson, 58, was arrested in connection with a May 7, 2018, incident in the 600 block of East Main. An upstairs female neighbor came to borrow a cup of sugar and check on Johnson's handicapped brother, according to a press release from Jacqueline Lacy, Vermilion County State's Attorney.

The brother let the woman in, as Johnson lay drunk in a chair in his living room, the release said. Johnson awoke and knocked the cup of sugar from the woman's hand. When she turned to confront him, he had dropped his pants, exposing himself, and threatened to sexually assault her, and as she turned again, he slashed her ear and shoulder with a pair of scissors, according to the release.

Hoopeston police arrived to find the woman bleeding and Johnson passed out in the same chair with the scissors tucked between his right leg and arm of the chair.

The Class 3 felony is punishable from probation to up to five years in prison. He will be sentenced on April 9 by Judge Nancy Fahey. At the February 18 council meeting, Goodwine who is finance committee chairman, said that while he originally gave Yaden the green light to do that, after giving it more thought, he decided the money should be put in a general accrual fund. At budget time, the money could be spent on the biggest needs of the city, which might or might not include cemetery records.

Saying leftover department funds are usually "\$100 here or \$100 there," Goodwine said he didn't think the issue should be decided Tuesday.

Yaden said the cemetery department ends up with about \$7,000 in accrued funds each year, saying, "If we don't do it now, it probably won't come up again for 20 years."

Ald. Bill McElhaney, siding with Yaden, said the council shouldn't wait until the records are destroyed, but Goodwine responded that, if those records are destroyed, I think we have a lot of other problems."

On a motion by Yaden and seconded by Ald. Jeff Wise, the council approved the expenditure. Goodwine was the lone dissenter.

In other business, Ald. Lourdine Florek announced that the swimming pool might not open this year because the city has not received enough lifeguard applicants to fill the necessary positions.

See COUNCIL on other side





Bill & Susan McGee Owners/Instructors

McGee Martial Arts

217-497-3916

206 S. First Avenue Hoopeston East Side/second floor







(217) 283-5186 Open Sundays

Council continued from other side

Water Supt. Steve Baker needs at least four weeks to get the pool ready for its Memorial Day opening so officials will have to decide by approximately May 1.

Limiting swimming hours or opening on weekends only were suggested but Florek said there were not enough applicants to man even limited hours.

Florek also reported that JULIE locating orders, which have been faxed to the water department, are now being electronically sent to Hoopeston Police Dispatch, which can relay information to the water department 24 hours a day. She thanked dispatchers for their willingness to work with the water department on the change. In other business the council:

• Heard sealed bids will be opened at 10 a.m. for a 2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer and a 2007 Crown Victoria, currently owned by Hoopeston Police Department, and a 1976 dump truck owned by the parks committee. Specs

Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 57. Tonight, increasing clouds. Low 31. Tomorrow, sunny. High 41, low 25. For real time Hoopeston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.



are available at city hall.

• Heard questions from Ald. Alex Houmes about burned properties, including one at Maple and First Ave, the former Dyer Mansion on Honeywell and Bzzz Bar on Main. Saying all are "burned beyond repair," Houmes said he wants to make sure the city is making progress on them being demolished.

Heard from Ald. Robin Lawson that Hoopeston Fire Department's Hospitality Day will be this Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the fire station. She also reminded people that the Cash Bash/Fireman's Ball will be May 2.
Lawson also announced that Mike Bane has organized a used television collection will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 21 at the Grant Township garage, 1101 S.

Seventh St., south of the high school softball field. Cost is \$10 for computer monitors, \$20 for TVs through 24 inches and \$30 for TVs larger than 24 inches. Cost for projection TVs and all wooden console models

Cost for projection TVs and all wooden console models is \$50. Computer keyboards and components will be accepted at no charge.

From the Blotter

Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident reported at 6:46 p.m. Tuesday at John Greer Grade School, 609 W. Main. An unknown vehicle hit the driver side rear view mirror of a 2018 school bus driven by Kathy A. Eighnor, 63, of Sheldon.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Large 3 BR ground level, washer dryer room, \$575/mo.; 2 BR downstairs, washer/dryer hookup, \$450/mo.; 1 BR ground level, \$400/mo. Call (217) 304-1103.

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@alstire mart.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 <u>www.full-fill.com</u> 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.

SERVICES

Paw Spa N'More, 1208 S. Second Ave., Hoopeston. Affordable pet grooming, Tuesday-Friday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays by appointment only. (217) 260-3313