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By
BERTHA PARSONS

Stay Focused on Life

Focused on how we accept what happens in our life. Yes, we are talking about your life and mine. Having time on our hands allows us to focus on what matters in life.

Being alive to choose how we want our life to be, how we want our future to look, you got it right! It's up to us! Now that can be downright scary! I must make decisions that effect my life today plus years ahead.

Let's get to the heart of it. Look at it as a great adventure, not a problem, not a test. Let's become adventurers, because life really is an adventure. No matter if you are alone, a couple, a couple with kids, you can make this life just the way you want it.

I have a great meat dip recipe my children love. My son, Martin, wanted the recipe. As I gave it to him, I said, "I may add a little more of one thing and taste it, then add more of something else." He made it several times attempting to get it to taste just like mine. It never did.

That is how your life is. It's never like anyone else's. Staying focused on our existence and keep going is not always easy. Keeping alive is a full-time job, no joke! There will be pain, hurt and death in every life, not one of us can escape it. Some days, weeks, maybe even

years we suffer. So why not live life now?

There are many things in our life that we (you & me) cannot change. We can try hard, we can work at it, think about it, even plan a solution. But we are still stuck in this life, like it or not!

Let's not just exist. Let's stay focused on our life. The positive circumstances that can add zeal and energy to it. Let's keep alive the joy we have, no matter how small it seems. Joy to be alive, joy to have clothes to wear, joy to be free to go about our town and shop where we want. Joy that we can have hamburgers or fried chicken for lunch. Joy that having good health brings. Joy for a friend or two. Joy in smiles. Joy to pray and be thankful for life.

Many years ago, a precious friend, who is no longer here in this life, gave me wise advice I have tried very hard to follow: "Live life Now. Don't worry about what-if's that may never happen." Stay focused on the best life you can have.

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Just the Facts

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Louridine Florek, Owner

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HA board acts on essential business during online session

Hoopeston Area School Board member took care of essential business in five minutes at its first electronic meeting Thursday.

Using Google Meet, board members met from various locations. Supt. Robert Richardson, President Dave McFadden and Secretary Lisa Leigh practiced social distancing in the district conference room, while Lee Cox, Debbie Klaber and Lawrence Jahn attended from personal locations. A smattering of others logged into the abbreviated session.

Personnel matters were approved, including resignations from Emily Fuhler, special ed teacher and fifth grade student leadership sponsor and Rochelle

Morgeson, middle school and high school show choir sponsor.

New employees hired, pending background checks and/or certification, are:

- Hana Smith, high school science teacher
- Luke Lawson, high school counselor
- Roberta Sue McDaniel, grade 3-6 general music teacher
- Connie Huffman, John Greer special ed teacher
- Jamie Pruitt, fifth grade student leadership sponsor

The board also approved the previous minutes, paid bills and renewed Educational Support Personnel for the coming year.

Council to hold first e-meeting, public may log on, comment

When Hoopeston City Council meets Tuesday, it will be with the aid of technology.

Aldermen will, for the first time, hold a meeting electronically, part of precautions taken for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Residents may take part in the meeting by going to <https://bit.ly/3bm32Z5> in a web browser. There, they may sign in to Microsoft Teams or log on anonymously. Once at the meeting, residents may ask questions via a chat feature.

The meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

Business to be acted on include paying bills, accepting bids for a squad car and, for the cemetery department, perpetual care, dump truck and mower bids.

Since Gov. JB Pritzker signed a statewide disaster declaration on March 13, in the wake of the Chinese virus, the council has held one regular meeting on March 17 and an emergency meeting on March 27 at city hall, practicing social distancing.

A budget meeting on March 31 was canceled, as was the regular meeting on April 4 because no essential business had to be conducted.

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Briefly

Tenth COVID-19 case confirmed

Vermilion County now has its tenth COVID-19-positive case. A person in his 50s was tested in Champaign County, and the lab confirmed the case.

The resident is not hospitalized at this time, Public Health Administrator Doug Toole announced Friday.

Resident reminders

- Hoopeston Water Department will flushing hydrants on Fridays through the summer months, weather permitting. Residents are asked to use caution doing laundry while hydrants are flushed.

- Hoopeston alley cleanup will begin May 4, weather permitting. This is for yard waste only. Piles with plastic, lumber, landscape material, concrete or brick will not be picked up.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today. High 45. Tonight, partly cloudy, then frost. Low 29. Tomorrow, chance of rain/snow. High 46, low 30.

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

- Residents are asked not to flush disinfectant wipes, baby wipes, cleaning cloths, feminine hygiene products or similar materials, down the toilet. These do not break down in the system and are being trapped by grease that residents continue to put down their sinks and toilets, resulting in blockages.

- 2019 golf cart stickers will be honored until May 1. Golf cart owners must still maintain insurance and equipment requirements as specified in the ordinance.

- Please do not mow grass into the streets. Grass gets washed into the sewers and causes clogs. Residents who mow into the street may face an ordinance citation and fine.

Food cupboard needs

Immediate needs at Grant Township Food Cupboard are macaroni and cheese and peanut butter. Other often-needed items include canned fruit, canned vegetables:

(kidney and chili beans, tomatoes, peas) tuna, cereal (any kind), cornbread mix, spaghetti and sauce, bath soap, toilet tissue. Items may be dropped off Mondays and Thursdays from noon-2 p.m. at 525 S. Market.

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Silgan Containers is hiring Press Line Mechanics. To apply, please visit <https://silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/10688>

The City of Hoopeston is accepting application for an eligibility list with the police department. If interested, you will need to pick up and turn in an application to the police department located at 301 W Main St. Hoopeston, IL by May 4, 2020. Testing date will take place on May 30, 2020 at Hoopeston Area High School Library.

City of Hoopeston is accepting applications for seasonal workers. applications can be found on the City Website at www.cityofhoopeston.com Click on the City Departments tab, then Administration, and scroll to the bottom of the page.

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.

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