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# Just the Facts

Thursday, May 14, 2020

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P. O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

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

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An employee of Lee Farms Excavating, of Paxton, tears down the former office building on the Vermilion Iron site, 225 N. Sixth Ave. Demolition work began Tuesday.

## Demolition work begins on former Vermilion Iron buildings, financial partners needed

It looked like a hungry yellow creature had come to the Vermilion Iron site, as an excavator operator used his machine to take a bite of the former Vermilion Iron office, then swung the arm around to dump the debris, before completing the circle to take another chomp.

The same company used to demolish buildings after the 2013 tire fire at the former FMC building is using its expertise to take down foundry buildings. Lee Farms Excavating, of Paxton, began demolition Tuesday at the former plant, at 225 N. Sixth Ave.

The property is owned by Hoopeston Land Improvements, Inc., formed in 2018 to deal with the Vermilion Iron property, said Harry Brockus, corporation board member and former Hoopeston Hospital CEO.

After taking on the abandoned property, the corporation had phase 1 and 2 environmental studies done to determine any contaminated areas. Asbestos was found at the site and was removed in January. When that work was finished, board members “got a lot of phone calls saying it looked worse” than before the work started.

Removing the asbestos cost \$180,000, Brockus said. Demolition, which will include Lee Farms Excavating removing all the steel, and then crushing the concrete block, will cost \$125,000.

The crushed block will be given to Hoopeston’s street and alley department to use, he said.

The biggest expense of remediating the property will be the most expensive. “Eventually, the landfill has to be addressed,” Brockus said.

See DEMOLITION on other side



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## Briefly

### Card shower

Bob Dilly is celebrating his 89th birthday and would appreciate cards from friends. They may be

### From the Blotter

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 12:46 p.m. Monday in the Teasdale Foods semi parking lot, 215 W. Washington.

Police said Vickie Lynn Lockhart, 62, of Boiling Springs, S. Car., in a 2017 Wabash semi trailer, came through the lot, did not see a yellow post, clipped and bent it, damaging the tractor and trailer.

The truck is owned by Paschall Truck Lines, Franklin, Tenn.

A license plate belonging to Wayne and Nancy Bandy was found Tuesday in the 400 block of East Thompson. It may be claimed at the police station.

### Demolition continued from other side

The Environmental Protection Agency has a process for dealing with old landfills, which will have to be followed, Brockus said. Landfill cleanup is estimated at \$300,000 to \$400,000.

Brockus has said previously that Hoopeston Land Improvements will need partners to complete the remediation. "We haven't had anybody step up and now is not the time to ask for money," he said. He's not asking now, but he has his eye on the future. "We'll work on it into 2021," he said. He hopes the Central Illinois Land Bank - started as the Vermilion County Land Bank but expanded to include other areas, most recently Decatur - may be able to help.

Once the site is clean, Hoopeston Lane Improvements' plan is to turn the property over to the city to use as a park.

The foundry, started in 1907, was purchased in 1946 by Deere & Co., and renamed John Deere Malleable Iron Works. It became Vermilion Iron Corp., when it was sold in 1976, then becoming Vermilion Iron Works in 1993.

The plant closed in February 2007, and was purchased by an investor that April. It closed again and, in 2013, was bought at a tax sale, and then sold to Hoopeston Land Improvements on July 6, 2018.

Hoopeston Land Improvements, Inc. was formed in April 2018, separate from, but with the same board members as Hoopeston Retirement Village Foundation.

Hoopeston Land Improvements was involuntarily dissolved in September 2019, but was later reinstated.

send to Bob Dilly, Iroquois Resident Home, 200 E. Fairman Ave., Watseka IL 60970.

### Graduation activities

Hoopeston Area High School will hold modified graduation activities for the class of 2020 this weekend.

A senior parade will be held Saturday morning. With a police escort, students in vehicles will leave the school and head to the Lorraine Theatre, where they will then travel to McFerren Park. The community can honor students along the parade route.

### Weather

Thunderstorms today, tonight, tomorrow. High today 75, low 63. Tomorrow, high 74, low 59.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit [justthefacts.net/weather/](http://justthefacts.net/weather/).

HAHS will air a virtual graduation ceremony at 3 p.m. Sunday. The ceremony will be broadcast on New Wave Channel 16 and posted on the district webpage. The ceremony will include speeches, senior class video, acknowledgement of each graduate and presentation of the class.

**Hoopeston Youth Baseball  
Refund Day**  
**Sunday, May 17th**  
**10 a.m. - 1 p.m.**  
**at the**  
**Little League**  
**field parking lot.**

## Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Area CUSD #11 is looking for bus drivers for the 2020-21 school year. If interested, please apply online or in person at the District Office. Online applications can be found on the school website, [www.hoopeston.k12.il.us](http://www.hoopeston.k12.il.us). Please call the district office at 217-283-6668 if you have any questions.

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

**Chemical Lab Supervisor**-prior experience working in a chemical laboratory.

**IT Assistant**- Troubleshooting and maintaining computers and programs in the facility. Both positions are Full-time Day shift M-F with a full benefit package.

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

Silgan Containers is hiring a Production Manager/Supervisor Trainee. Please apply online at: [silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/10730](http://silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/10730)

The Pit Stop at Fast Lanes is looking for dayshift kitchen help, 8-2. Food handlers license or Food Sanitation license. required

Silgan Containers is hiring Press Line Mechanics. To apply, please visit [silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/10688](http://silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/10688)

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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.full-fill.com) go to employment or employment opportunities and apply as indicated. EOE