



Downtown Hoopeston Farmers Market

Fridays from 5-7 p.m.

July 10, 17, 24, 31 and August 7, 14, 21, 28

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Just the Facts

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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Lourine Florek, Owner

www.justthefacts.net

77th annual sweet corn festival rescheduled for 2021

In the annals of National Sweetcorn Festival history, 2020 will be remembered along with World War II era as years the harvest celebration was not held.

Hoopeston Jaycees announced Monday evening that the 77th annual festival is postponed until September 2-6, 2021.

The National Sweetcorn Festival, an adaptation of the Hoopeston Sweetcorn Festival, which started in 1935, began in 1941. It was discontinued during the war years, coming back in 1948.

This year, COVID-19 is the cause behind the cancellation.

"After thoughtful discussion with our members, the community, vendors, and our insurance provider, we have made the difficult decision to postpone the 77th National Sweetcorn Festival to September 2 - 6, 2021," the Jaycees announced in a press release.

"A large part of our decision was based on our insurance provider not covering this year's event," the release stated. "We ask the community to respect our decision-making and we did not come to these conclusions without a lot of thought and input from everyone."

This year's officials - Festival Chairman Joyce Clingenpeel and 2020 Miss Hoopeston Asti Scharlach - will serve in those roles next year. Clingenpeel's logo, featuring "Sassy Sally," will return in 2021, as well.

Clingenpeel said the deciding not to hold a festival this year "was very hard for the Jaycees. We, the Jaycees, have become a family. It's our time to meet up and see people we only get to see once a year. We also get to meet new people from all around the world."

The festival is personal to Clingenpeel, who became part of the Jaycees family about six years ago. "Without the festival, I wouldn't have met my now-husband, P.J. Clingenpeel," who is the festival's annual corn chairman. "The festival is where we met for the first time."

Planning for the 2020 festival began even before the 2019 festival was over, so Clingenpeel has a real head start on 2021, which is expected to include a two-day



Photo submitted

Joyce Clingenpeel, 2020 - and now 2021 - National Sweetcorn Festival chairman, with her logo featuring Sassy Sally, when it was unveiled on January 5.

tractor pull and possibly two days of demo derby. "They seem to be what the crowd wants to see," she said.

No concert was set for this year and will not be for next year. "The concerts were nice but really didn't bring a crowd in," she said. "We love seeing as many people as we can get in the annex and hope to fill it next year."

Many vendors were hoping to come this year, but Clingenpeel said they asked that, if the festival was canceled, their places be held for next year.

She's also planning an old-fashioned float contest for

See FESTIVAL continued from other side

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Obituaries

PATE - Alfred Eugene Pate, 93, of Hoopeston, died at 11:32 a.m. Sunday, July 5, 2020, at home. Graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Floral Hill Cem-

From the Blotter

Police are investigating a report made at 5:33 a.m. Monday by a 37-year-old Hoopeston man who said an aluminum brake had been taken from his garage in the 800 block of East Seminary.

A rather larger fob for a Chevrolet vehicle was found in the driveway at Hoopeston City Hall. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

Two added to 60942 total of positive COVID-19 patients

According to information from the Illinois Department of Public Health, the 60942 zip code added two people positive for COVID-19 between Friday and Monday.

The zip code includes Hoopeston and Cheneyville. Data on the IDPH zip code map Friday showed seven positive cases but the total was at nine Monday.

Vermilion County had been at 67 positive cases but added four on Thursday, two Friday and three Monday, bringing the new total to 76. There are 24 active cases in the county, with 22 on home isolation and two hospitalized, said Doug Toole, Public Health Administrator. Fifty people have been released from isolation and two died.

So far, 6,949 county residents have been tested for the Chinese virus, with 6,873 negative.

Festival continued from other side

the Grand Parade. "I would love to have my kids and others see how parades used to be when I was a kid."

The National Sweetheart Pageant is also canceled this year. Organizers will refund fees to this year's applicants and will make an exception next year, raising the age limit to 27 so contestants at the maximum age of 26 may compete next year if they so choose.

Proceeds from the Labor Day events help fund Jaycees' projects, Toys for Kids and Underprivileged Kids Christmas.

Clingenpeel said the Jaycees hope to be able to host some smaller events this year for the community, "But we want to make sure everyone is safe and will make the decisions on those at a later date."

etry, Hoopeston. Due to recent health concerns, anyone not wishing to attend the service may line North Market St. at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday to greet the family as they go to the cemetery. Military rites will be by Hoopeston American Legion Post #384. Memorials are suggested to Iroquois Memorial Hospice, 200 Laird Lane, Watseka, IL 60970. Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston, is handling arrangements. Condolences may be left at www.anderson-funeral-home.com.

Court Dispositions

June 10

Brandon P. Grills, Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing, case sent to state for further enforcement.

Classifieds

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Available now: 726 S. Third St. 3 BR. \$475/mo. + security deposit. References.. (217) 304-3477 for application. Owner/Lic. real estate agent

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Teasdale Latin Foods has immediate openings on 2nd shift in both Distribution and Manufacturing. Pay to be determined based on experience level. Stop by the Human Resources office at 215 West Washington Street, Hoopeston, for more detail. Please no phone calls.

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We are currently hiring for our Verizon location next to McDon-

Briefly

Splash pad open

City of Hoopeston's splash pad is open! The splash pad is in McFerren Park near the swimming pool. The swimming pool is closed this year.

The splash pad will be open 9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. Admission is free. Adult supervision will not be provided at the splash pad so parents are asked to monitor their children while using the water feature.

Weather

Sunny then chance of thunderstorms today. High 93. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 72. Tomorrow, chance of storms. High 92, low 71.

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

ald'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.

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