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Bertha's



By
BERTHA PARSONS

Is This the Beginning or the End?

Here we are in December, with Christmas still in our rear view mirror. Ask my children or my friends and they will tell you I love Christmas!

The food, the gifts, the cards, the calls from faraway friends. I like everything about it! Blame my Mother, she was always excited to mail her first Christmas card and to get one. Cookies and coffee cakes from scratch were her specialties as gifts to friends.

No matter how old I grow, I become a child at Christmas. We must take a nighttime tour of our little town to check out all the lights. From just little decorations to let's cover the whole house ones make our town special!

I know cards are almost out of style, but if you get a card from me you know I'll write a note just for you. I fully understand with computers and iPads, who needs a Christmas card from a friend? I do. It makes me smile as I read your cards and know you cared enough to send me one.

Now it's cookie time. My children and Mother were master cookie makers. What joy they shared around the table decorating cookies with frosting on their face, hands and tongue! Having two artists, our cookies were very different and personalized.

Was this the end of cookie making now that they are all grown up? No! It is the beginning of filling their homes with memories, laughter and cookies!

December does certainly mark the END of a year. Some would say it's been a dreadful year. Others, like me, say it's been a learning about life year. So, what has Bertha learned? To be patient with others, especially family members. Know that this tragedy of virus and illness will eventually go away. I found cleaning closets, file cabinets, even the garage had hidden surprises filled with joy.

Sharing homemade cookies with neighbors made some happy folks. Reading and calling family and friends kept my mind sharp. Staying positive no matter what the newscasters said. We are going to be OK!

To end something, you must begin. Let us together begin the end of 2020 with a bang! Why not celebrate the good of 2020, we all had some! Ending is really a way to start something new.

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Lourdine Florek, Owner

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Mayor Bill Crusinberry, left, and Mike Bane display aces drawn at a lottery Tuesday to determine which name will be listed first for mayor in the April election, as City Clerk Gail Lane and Officer Darin Tate look on.

Game of chance determines name placement on April ballot

A game of chance determined name placement on the April ballot for Hoopeton mayoral candidates.

Incumbent Bill Crusinberry and challenger Mike Bane filed election petitions at the same time. A lottery was needed to determine whose name would be listed first.

The men, along with City Clerk Gail Lane and Officer Darin Tate, of the Hoopeton Police Department, met in the city hall conference room for the tie-breaker.

As clerk, Lane oversaw the lottery, choosing high card draw as the decision maker. Tate, on the administrative side of the office on other business, was drafted to witness the lottery and to open the brand new deck of cards.

After shuffling them, she fanned out a handful of cards, holding them in Bane's direction to pick, then pivoting to Crusinberry. After both had chosen, the candidates flipped their cards to show both had drawn an ace.

Fanning a second group of cards, Lane selected Crusinberry to go first. After Bane selected his card, they again revealed their cards, with Crusinberry showing a four and Bane a nine, putting him as top name on the ballot for the April 6 consolidated election.

Although there are contests for aldermanic seats, no two candidates filed at the same time, so no lottery was needed for those.

Smoked BBQ
Rossville Family Restaurant
 715 S. Chicago (217) 748-6201
Lunch & Dinner
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Obituaries

NEUKOMM - Donald A. Neukomm, 73, of Cissna Park, died Monday, Dec. 28, 2020, at Riverside Medical Center, Kankakee. Graveside service will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Cissna Park Cemetery, with military rites by Cissna Park American Legion. Memorials are suggested to Cerebral Amyloid Angiopathy Research Center, www.angiopathy.org/support. Knapp Funeral Home, Cissna Park, is handling arrangements. Condolences may be left at www.knappfuneralhomes.com.

PIATT - Samuel "Dean" Piatt, 78, of Gifford, formerly of Armstrong, died Dec. 27, 2020. Given current health guidelines, a private family service will be held. Memorials are suggested to Middlefork United Methodist Church, I & I Antique Tractor Club, Michael J Fox Foundation for Parkinson's disease, or a charity of the donor's choice. Blurton Funeral Home, Potomac, is handling arrangements. Condolences may be left at www.BlurtonFuneralHomes.com.

From the Blotter

A green Huffy bicycle was found Monday in the alley of the 200 block of East Main. The owner may identify and claim it at the police station.

Weather

Rain, then rain/snow likely today. High 45. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 23. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy, freezing rain likely late. High 34, low 28.
 For real time Hoopston weather, visit justthefacts.net/weather/.

Rossville Family Restaurant
 715 S. Chicago St., Rossville, IL

New Year's Eve Specials
 Serving 5 p.m.-9 p.m.
 Hand Cut USDA Choice 6 oz. Filet Mignon \$18.95
 Two four-ounce Lobster Tails, Flame Broiled \$21.95
 Surf & Turf Combo 1 Filet, 1 Lobster Tail \$26.99
 All served with vegetable, rolls, soup or salad & choice of potato
 Reservations recommended for Dec. 30th
 (217) 748-6201

New Year's Day Special
Corned Beef & Cabbage
 Slow roasted, fresh Corned Beef Brisket, cooked and served with cabbage, carrots & potatoes. Choice of soup or salad \$10.99

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Silgan Containers is hiring Press Line Mechanics. Interested candidates can apply online at silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/11205/0

Part time maintenance person for properties in Hoopston. Mon.-Fri. and on call. 20-25 hours/week, starting at 9 a.m. \$15-\$16 per hour. Candidate must have knowledge in the following: basic construction, HVAC (certification preferred), electrical, plumbing, painting, cleaning. Must have valid driver's license, auto insurance and reliable transportation; have own tools and pass background check. Send resume to pmeadows@thinkcrestline.com

Full-Fill Industries Henning, IL, is offering many job opportunities for full-time, with a full benefit package, and part-time positions. 1st and 2nd shifts available. Choose the schedule that fits your lifestyle - 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 offer a part-time flexible work schedule for Moms & Dads who want to earn extra cash during school hours, with an. 8 am - 4:30 pm schedule to fit the needs of your family.
 Please apply on-line at www.full-fill.com go to employment or employment opportunities and apply as indicated. EOE

Driver w/CDL needed. Home every night. Trips within 100 miles of Hoopston. (217) 304-1943.

Autumn Fields of Hoopston is looking for CNAs part time hours, every other weekend and shared holidays. Please call Autumn Fields @ 217-283-2222

KSii in Cissna Park is seeking a qualified Controls Technician for project site startups and in-field customer training for controls systems. The ideal candidate will possess excellent communication, electrical, technical, and troubleshooting skills. An understanding of PLCs and HMI applications is preferred. Travel is required. Apply online at www.ksiedge.com or send resume to hr@ksiedge.com.

Vermilion County Animal Shelter is hiring kennel workers, full and part time available! Email ksnyder@vercounty.org or visit www.vercounty.org/jobs_general.htm for an application.

Holiday closings

- Just the Facts will not be printed Friday or Monday.
- Hoopston City Hall will be closed Thursday and Friday. Hoopston Police Department will be open.
- Due to the holiday, bulk garbage day will not be held this week. The first bulk drop off of the new year will be Saturday, Jan. 16.
- Hoopston Public Library will be closed Dec. 31-Jan. 3.

DOG TOWN Heating, Air, & Plumbing is in search of an experienced HVAC technician to help serve our customers in the area. Pay based on experience. Health insurance, Life insurance, and 2 weeks paid vacation. We have a family atmosphere that serves our customers with honesty and integrity. Email brad.dogtown@gmail.com

Mechanic wanted. Experience with heavy truck, construction, and agricultural machinery preferred. Call 217-474-8349.

Cade's Heating and Air HVAC installer/ service tech. must have valid IL drivers license and EPA freon license. Please send resume to ramcade@frontier.com or 101 E Penn St., Hoopston IL 60942.

East Lynn Fertilizer is seeking full time and seasonal help. Requirements include at least a Class B CDL and ability to pass a drug test. Call 217-375-4225 or stop by 41284 S Main St., East Lynn, IL for more details.

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 W. Washington Street, Hoopston, for more detail. Please no phone calls.

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 Hoopston or call us at 855-692-7824.

HOUSES FOR RENT

710 E. Main., Hoopston. 3 BR, 1 bath bungalow. \$650/mo. Plus sec. dep. References required. No pets, please. Call (217) 304-3477 for application. Owner - licensed real estate agent.

SERVICES WANTED

Part time caregiver for elderly man with early dementia. Send resume to P.O. Box 85, East Lynn IL 60932 or email to publish@justthefacts.net.