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Wednesday, January 27, 2021

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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Richardson, Hoopeston Area board approve five-year contract with no payout clause

Hoopeston Area Superintendent Robert Richardson plans to lead the district for at least the next five years.

The district board on Thursday approved a five-year contract for Richardson, who came to Hoopeston Area in 2019 on a two-year contract. The new deal becomes effective in July and gives Richardson a two percent raise in each of the five vears.



RICHARDSON

Hoopeston City Hall to reopen

Hoopeston residents will be able to transact business at Hoopeston City Hall beginning February 1.

Hours of in-person service will be 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8-11 a.m. Friday.

Hoopeston Police Department window will be open during those times, as well. After hours, citizens can contact the department by phone, (217) 283-5196 or by using the intercom located outside the front doors.

During the open in-person times, residents are asked to follow these guidelines:

- No more than 10 people in line at a time. Any more than 10 will have to wait outside until the line goes
- Spaces will be marked 6 ft. apart to maintain social distancing in line.
- Residents may enter through the front door but must exit out the east door. Arrows will be posted.
- Residents are encouraged to wear a mask when en-

See OPEN on other side

Five-year contracts are not often offered to HA superintendents. Mark Conolly was given a five-year deal in 2003. Hank Hornbeck signed a four-year contract in 2013, which took him to his retirement.

In searching for Hornbeck's successor, the board search initially offered a one-year contract but had no takers. A second search offered a multi-year contract and was more successful, bringing former John Greer teacher Susie Hesser in as superintendent with a three-year agreement. Hesser was approved in March 2017 and almost exactly two years later, she and the district parted ways, with Hesser receiving a payout from the district.

There is no payout language in the new contract, said

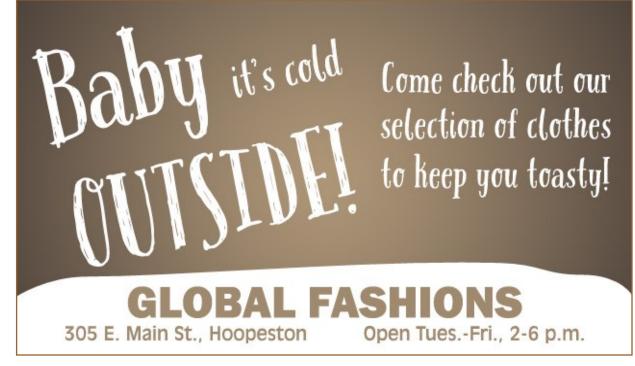
both Richardson and board President Dave McFadden.

"If it comes to that - that the board no longer feels they want my services - I don't work, you don't pay me," Richardson said.

McFadden concurred, saying Richardson made two things clear to him: he wanted to spend the rest of his career leading the Hoopeston Area district and that he did not want a new contract to include payout language.

"The board felt that this was a noble gesture, one worthy of a five-year agreement, especially considering (Richardson) has provided outstanding leadership and stability during the unprecedented challenges created by

See CONTRACT on other side





Wait list full

Public Health Director Doug Toole announced Tuesday that wait lists for February Covid-19 vaccines are full.

"We have enough people on our wait-list to comfortably fill the appointment books for the Feb. 11, 18 and 25 clinics at the Fischer," he said. Additions to the wait list have been suspended until February 16. An appointment

Open continued from other side

tering the building.

• If you are feeling ill at all, please stay home.

Arrangements for payments or other city business can still be handled over the phone (217-283-5833), via the city's website, www.cityofhoopeston.com, or by using the drop box in front of City Hall.

Hours for over the phone services will remain Monday – Friday 7 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Contract continued from other side

the Covid-19 pandemic," he said.

Also, McFadden said, Richardson and his wife, Jennifer are active members in the community, making efforts to meet as many people and local leaders as possible. Daily operations of the district are well managed and Richardson is actively working on longrange plans and issues facing the district, which are "all things important to the board and examples of the leadership necessary to ensure the stability and performance of our district," he added.

The new contract contains no new responsibilities or limitations, McFadden said. One point implemented after Hesser left limits superintendents' authority to approve payments up to \$10,000. "The board has not changed the existing limitation that any expenditure that exceeds \$10,000 requires board approval," he said.

In unrelated action, the board approved a \$305,590 bid from Reliable Mechanical of Champaign to install air conditioning at Maple and John Greer. Richardson said company employees will have access to the building over spring break to begin preliminary work but that availability will be limited when students are present. "Kids have enough distractions," he said.

The board also:

• Approved the summer intervention program to be held May 31 to July 2 for students in grades K-8. The intervention program is not mandatory, he said but "it could prevent (students) from being retained."

process is expected to be in place by that date, as well.

Obituaries

GOSS - Stephen Douglas "Steve" Goss, 73, of Danville, formerly of Hoopeston, died at 8:38 p.m. Friday, Jan. 22, 2021 at OSF Sacred Heart Medical Center, Danville. Private graveside service will be held at Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston, with military rites by Hoopesto American Legion Post #384. Memorials are suggested to Hoopeston American Legion, 502 E. Penn, Hoopeston IL 60942. Anderson Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Condolences may be left at www.anders-funeral-home.com.

LETE - Alice Jean (Pettice) Lete, 87, of Alvin, died at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021, at home. She was cremated. Rortvedt Funeral Services is handling arrangements. Condolences may be left at www.rortvedtfuneral services.com.

- Approved 1:1 training for in-season athletics, following Illinois Department of Public Health guidelines
- Approved resignations of Donna Hiltz, middle school student council co-sponsor, effective December 18, 2020; Madeline Stock, high school English teacher, effective at the end of the school year; Jessica Lannon, eighth grade math long term substitute, effective January 15; Karmalita Perez, middle school in -school suspension supervisor, effective January 8; and Randal Sperry, high-middle school choral director/Maple general music teacher, effective at the end of the school year.
- Approved hiring Kathy Young as middle school classroom aide, effective January 4; Amy Coffey, bus aide, effective January 6; and Terry Griffith, eighth grade long-term math sub, effective January 19.
- Approved transferring Jackie Field from high school personal aide to Response to Intervention aide, effective January 7.

Weather

Slight chance of snow today. High 30. Tonight, decreasing clouds. Low 13. Tomorrow, sunny. High 28, low 17.

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

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

2 bedroom first floor apartment, washer & dryer hook up, fresh paint, garbage paid, \$500 month 217-495-2274

HELP WANTED

Accepting applications for Cook, prep Cook, and dishwasher positions. Pick up application in person. Rossville Family Restaurant, 715 S. Chicago St., Rossville, Il

Wagner's, LLC, Milford, is hiring production workers, forklift drivers. Apply at 2812 E. 1100 N Rd., or call (815)-889-4101.

The City of Hoopeston is accepting applications for a Code Enforcement Officer. This is a part-time position with flexible hours working approximately 40 hours per month. Applications are available on our website www.cityofhoopeston.com under the Services link then Employment. Contact City Hall, 217-283 -5833, for more information.

Mustard Seed Christian Daycare has an opening for a full time cook. Requirements: Must be 19 years old, must be able to follow recipes and successfully cook/bake according to the recipe, must be able to pass a background check, must be willing to obtain Food Service Manager License, must be available from 6:30am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday, must be able to lift objects up to 20lbs and stand for most of the shift. Application information can be requested by emailing Terri Bush at mustardseed.kitchenstaff@gmail.com.

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

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 Hoopeston. (217) 304-1943.

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

KSi 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.

Dogtown 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

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., Hoopeston 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, Hoopeston, 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 Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

HOUSES FOR SALE

1 BR, 1 bath, large garage, new roof. Corner lot. Asking \$35,000 firm. Call (217) 260-6131 for details.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

The Hoopeston Area Sports Boosters is accepting sealed bids for a dumbbell weight set, ranging from 5 to 100 lbs, and two racks. If interested in reviewing the weight set and racks, please contact the district office at 217-283-6668 for more details. All Sealed bids must be turned in to the District Office by 11:00 A.M. on 2/5/2021. Bids will be opened on 2/5/2021 at 11:15 a.m. The District Office will provide a bid sheet when requested.

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.

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