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Bertha's



By
BERTHA PARSONS

Living in Luxury

What would it be like for one day to live in the lap of luxury? Hard to think about that this winter. I'm all for a warm blanket, a heavy jacket, good fitting gloves and snow boots! Luxury I'm not sure about.

Life as we know it changes from day to day. Luxury is something we usually dream about. A brand-new BMW, a vacation for two to Hawaii, having fifty dollars left after paying all my bills. Luxury for most of us is all about money. But is it really?

Luxury is all about something very, very special! It can be a fantasy, something you've always wanted or a place you really want to visit. Yes, in many ways it is about money. It takes money to go to expensive places or leisure activities. Seems like there is no cheap luxury, at least from my perspective.

Then it came to me, all of a sudden! I am thinking of no cost luxury! Yes! A day I don't need to bundle up and go out in a zero-degree morning! A day I can do nothing, just read a book. Maybe a day to wander around local shops and just look. I can make a list of what I want to buy later. A luxury I'm most thankful for is good health. A time

to relax on this winter day and drag out old pictures with awesome memories. Nowadays, most pictures are stored on a iPad, a smart phone, or on a "cloud." I really find it a luxury holding a picture of my mother at our daughter's wedding. Then there's the picture of my first grandson. A whole collection of albums full of hard-copy pictures, rich in luxury and worth a million dollars.

Living in luxury can be made up of "little" things such as a phone call from your kids, enjoying the Sunday paper, an afternoon nap, brownies baking in the oven, warm house slippers and a cup of hot tea. All these things that take place in your life that bring you joy without adding stress add up to luxury.

Can you buy luxury? Sure, but not always. Because for me, as my Mother would say, "Making the most of what you have is living in luxury!"

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Streaming company may be sidelined after poor performance

Snafus in live-streaming Hoopeston Area sporting events are causing frustration for fans and district officials alike.

The problem was discussed at Thursday's Hoopeston Area Board of Education meeting.

The district announced earlier this month that indoor high school sporting events held in the middle school and John Greer gyms would be streamed live by NFHS Network. Pixellot automated sports cameras were installed in both gyms to stream the games. However, only John Greer cameras are capturing the action.

"For some reason, when there's a game in the middle school gym, they can't get that camera to work," said Supt. Robert Richardson. Fans logged in to the network, expecting to see student athletes in the middle school gym. Instead, they saw an empty John Greer gym. More recently, when middle school games were streamed, "it's not Pixellot, it's Tim (Walsh) running four cameras."

Working with NFHS Network to solve the problem has not been easy. "You can't call or email," Richardson said. "You have to text." Richardson said he was driving recently and did receive a call. "We had a game tonight that you guys messed up," he said he told the company representative; also telling him to make it work or the district would not pay for it.

"I think they put in too many too fast and didn't have the manpower to back it up," Richardson concluded.

A question was asked whether the streaming system was needed, since parents are able to attend home games to watch their athletes play, but the question was not answered.

In other business, Richardson said a preconstruction date had been scheduled with Reliable Mechanical of Champaign for installing air conditioning at Maple and John Greer. The meeting was canceled because of the weather. Spring break will be March 26-April 2, when company representatives can "have free reign" on planning the project, which is expected to be done during the summer.

In related business, the board approved spending \$20,518.99 for Reliable to repair the Maple boiler. The company installed the new boiler in 2019.

The company has also been tasked with troubleshooting and fixing John Greer's boiler. After "three weeks of flawless operation," the boiler was off Thursday morning, Richardson said.

This is not the first problem with that school's boiler, as in December, Richardson reported a leak was discovered during a Life Safety inspection. The inspector allowed time for the boiler to be welded, resulting in a favorable inspection.

Much like last year, this year's high school students will experience an abnormal school year, Principal John Klaber said in his report.

Once again, the annual musical is canceled, to be replaced by a variety show that can be videoed in socially distant segments, then put together and streamed. Other fine arts instructors are looking at new ways to showcase their students' abilities.

Students interested in show choir - instead of auditioning in person - will be asked to submit videos of themselves singing and dancing.

Officials are discussing the feasibility of hosting a prom. "Under current guidelines, it's just not possible to do," Klaber said. Despite that, in case restrictions are loosened, the school is keeping its contract with a DJ and have decorations that were not used last year, he added.

Homecoming week will be April 5-9 and will also look different than normal, but will have the usual dress-up days and decorated hallways, he said.

The high school will be updating its Hall of Fame program, which features posters of graduates who have gone on to have successful lives. Members of graduating classes from 2000 to 2020 are encouraged to email their information to the school.

In unrelated business, the board:

- Approved Suzanne Boyer as HAMS boys track coach,
See **PERFORMANCE** on other side

From the Blotter

A **90-year-old** Hoopeston man reported at 1:30 p.m. Sunday that items were missing from the 700 block of Scott Dr. Police are investigating.

Haley Edwards, 24, of Hoopeston, was arrested at

10:42 p.m. Sunday in the 700 block of South First Ave. she was charged with trespassing on a complaint from a 22-year-old woman and was released on a notice to appear in Vermilion County Circuit Court.

Court Dispositions

January 13

Holly R. Irvin, Hoopeston, failed to appear at sentencing for restraint of dog by owner, found guilty by default, fined \$580; status hearing February 10.

Darrell L. Estes, Hoopeston, appeared for criminal damage to property; status hearing February 10.

Scott J. Howe, Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to restraint of dogs by owner, fined \$180; status hearing

February 10.

Esmeralda Rojas, Hoopeston, battery case continued, new initial appearance February 10.

Linda S. Drollinger, Hoopeston, failed to appear for restraint of dogs by owner; sentencing February 10.

Anita G. Gunn, Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to disobeying police, fined \$180; status hearing February 10.

Performance continued from other side

and Samantha Russell as HAMS girls' track coach, effective February 19, and Carlos Sanchez as high school football volunteer, pending background check.

● Approved offering Teachers Retirement System members the organization's Supplemental Savings Plan, allow-

ing teachers to contribute to an optional plan separate from the primary pension plan.

● Heard from Richardson, who thanked Gibson Area, Carle Hoopeston and Vermilion County Health Department for their efforts in giving second Covid-19 vaccinations to teachers. "If you got a shot, raise your arm as high as you can," he quipped.

● Richardson also told the board that the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules voted to approve the **Culturally Responsive Teaching and Leading Standards**, which will change how and what students are taught. The change was also approved by the Illinois State Board of Education in December.

● Asked by a board member about the recent snow day and remote learning day, Richardson said "lunch." The district provides lunches on remote learning days to students who request them, but not on snow days. Also, he said, the snow day was on a Tuesday after a Monday holiday when not all students had taken their Chromebooks home. Asked why students didn't take them home daily, Principal Suzi Root replied, "That's not appropriate for Maple."

● Heard that high school students will return to five-day, in-person learning in March.

Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 44. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 33. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 41, low 23.

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

Mustard Seed Christian Daycare is looking to hire 2-3 part time assistant teachers. Requirements include: 18 years of age or older, High School Diploma or GED, College credits are preferred but not mandatory for the right candidate, willing to undergo a background check and fingerprinting, flexible and able to work as early as 6:30 a.m. and as late as 5:30 p.m., and have reliable transportation. Please email Nicole Gregory at mustardseed.christiandaycare@gmail.com for application information.

Part time (30 hrs./wk) property manager for 55 single-family home rental community. \$11-\$14/hr. Looking for a self-starter with good communication skills, committed, reliable, punctual, able to work independently. Tax Credit and Yardi experience preferred but can train. Send resume to acox@thinkcrestline.com.

Fast Lanes is looking for experienced kitchen help. Time is from 4-usually about 9. If interested and willing to learn our system please contact Doug or Rachel at 283-6505.

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.

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.

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KS i 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.

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