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Just the Facts

Friday, February 26, 2021

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Pritzker requests low-interest loans for natural gas crisis

SPRINGFIELD—Building on efforts by the administration to respond to recent extreme weather conditions across Illinois, Governor Pritzker called on the Illinois Finance Authority (IFA) to develop a \$15 million low-interest loan program to help small municipalities that have been financially impacted by record high natural gas prices due to extreme weather conditions.

"The catastrophic pricing surges have rained down on downstate communities in Illinois, demanding an unbearable financial sacrifice from small municipalities and their residents," said Governor JB Pritzker. "The State of Illinois will not leave our people out in the cold. I have called upon the Illinois Finance Authority to develop a low-interest \$15 million loan program for impacted communities to support a manageable payment program for the record-high utility costs.

Illinois will use every lever of state government to support all our communities as best we can."

"I would like to thank Governor Pritzker and his team for expeditiously coming to the aid of small communities across the state that own their natural gas systems," said Heather Viele, General Manager of the Interstate Municipal Gas Agency. "The crisis that occurred in the natural gas industry Feb 12th through Feb 21st elevated prices to egregious levels. To put the severity of this crisis in perspective, the egregious level of natural gas prices would be similar to a gallon of gasoline rising from the current \$2.89 per gallon to

\$289 per gallon."

Natural gas on average in the winter costs the impacted municipal utilities around \$2-\$3 per dekatherm. Municipal utilities drawing from the Panhandle Pipeline paid \$225 per dekatherm from February 13-16. These bills are required to be paid within the next few weeks and small municipalities could be financially crippled without any assistance.

Panhandle Pipeline implemented restrictions on gas use due to increase in demands because of the extreme temperatures across the country, as well as a choking of supply in Texas and Oklahoma due to wellhead freeze offs at production sites. Panhandle Pipeline implemented restrictions to maintain operational capacity. Since then, natural gas prices have surged to record levels starting around February 13.

The IFA loan program would assist impacted municipalities by allowing them to spread the payments across a more manageable timeframe without placing an overwhelming burden on their residents or businesses. The IFA is currently fine-tuning the specifics of the program ahead of their special meeting on Thursday, February 25th at noon, which will formalize the request.

The administration is working alongside impacted municipalities to assist them in managing the incredible financial challenges this places on them. Without

See GAS on other side

Rossville to use surplus funds to pay 'exorbitant' gas bills

In a message to residents on its website, Village of Rossville is reassuring residents it will help them with their natural gas bill this month.

A deep freeze covering three-fourths of the U.S. caused natural gas consumption to increase, while at the same time gas lines in the south saw frozen equipment. The two resulted in gas companies limiting supplies, sending the price of natural gas skyrocketing.

Rossville officials said they are working with state and federal officials to "help us fight these egregious price increases.

"While we can expect some weather-related increases in February gas bills, the Village of Rossville will use surplus funds to offset any exorbitant increases in your normal monthly utility bills," the message said.

Enough of unfulfilled promises! I see an opportunity to make Hoopeston grow, bring businesses to town, invest in our future – and I will get the job done!

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Monday: Meatloaf, Taco Salad or grilled and breaded Tenderloins

Tuesday: Speedway Burger and Chicken or Beef & Noodles

Wednesday: Rib eye sandwich and Prime Rib sandwich

Thursday: Swiss steak or Popcorn Shrimp

Friday: Cod and Rib eye steak dinners

Saturday: Prime Rib and Rib eye steak dinners

Good Breakfast = Good Day

Breakfast 6-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri., 6:30-11 Sat., 6:30-noon Sun.

Breakfast Buffet

Sat., 7-11 a.m. Sun. 7 a.m. - Noon

Full breakfast menu also available



Obituaries

KINNETT - Arliss D. Kinnett, 90 of Rossville, died at 10:06 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021, at Heritage Health, Hoopeston. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

LONG - Diane R. Long, 81, of Hoopeston, died at 7 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021, at Heritage Health, Hoopeston. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

MOCKBEE - Charles D. "Chuck" Mockbee III, 74, of Danville, died February 23, 2021. Visitation will be 2-4 p.m. Sunday at CrossRoads Christian Church, 3613 N. Vermilion St., Danville. A celebration of his life will be

Gas continued from other side

relief, municipalities could face budget hardships.

The administration will continue to pursue all options to help the impacted municipalities including working alongside the state's congressional delegation to secure direct aid from the federal government. After speaking with mayors and other local leaders, the Governor and the administration issued a disaster declaration on February 16.

at 10 a.m. Monday at the church. Burial will be in Johnson Cemetery, Danville. Guests are asked to observe Covid-19 protocols. Memorials are suggested to the church. Sunset Funeral Home and Cremation Center, Danville, is handling arrangements. Condolences may be left at www.sunsetfuneralhome.com.

From the Blotter

Jamie Johnson, 46, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were called at 10:28 p.m. Wednesday for a violation of order of protection in the 700 block of South First Ave.

She was charged with violation of stalking no contact order and was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

Weather

Sunny today. High 46. Tonight, chance of rain. Low 34. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 54, low 37. Sunday, partly sunny. High 52, low 26.

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.

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.

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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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

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.

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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 RENT

Rossville: 3 bdrm, 1 bth, C/A, full bsmt, 1 car det garage. Newer repl. windows. energy efficient. \$800/mo. plus sec depos. Close to grade school & day care. Will consider section 8. 217-304-2247

HOUSES FOR SALE

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

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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