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Just the Facts

Thursday, November 4, 2021

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P. O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

Phone/Fax: (217) 283-9348
Lourdine Florek, Owner

www.justthefacts.net

Fake bid voided, new bid OK'd for building

A bid accepted by Hoopeston City Council last month for construction of a emergency services building had to be voided this month, after officials learned the person who submitted the bid did not have the authority to do so.

At the October 19 meeting, the council unanimously accepted a \$33,906 bid from Quality Buildings, owned by Dale Vogel. He later told a council member that an employee submitted the bid without his knowledge or approval. Tuesday, the council voided that bid and, in a 6-2 vote, approved the second

bid submitted for the work, for \$59,450.75 from Silver Brothers.

The bid includes construction, concrete and plumbing work for the structure, which will be in McFerren Park.

Council members Bob Porth and Kellie Ferrell voted against the action, citing cost increases and delays.

The project was initially approved in August 2020 when the council approved \$30,000 for construction.

Work started but was left unfinished after confusion about the order in

See BID on other side

Acoustic duo to perform at Lorraine Theatre

A musical act coming to the Lorraine Theatre gets rave reviews from one of the group's members.

Marta Pierce, and her husband, Bobby, were in Nashville – she quickly adds “Indiana” so there is no confusion. After eating in Nashville, Pierce wanted to sample some entertainment, so they found a venue featuring “Jenn & Eric Simply Acoustic & Simply Amazing.” She was so impressed with their performance that she wanted to bring the musical duo to Hoopeston.

Presented by One Pulse Entertainment, Jenn Cristy and Eric Brown will bring their show to The Lorraine for one performance only, at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 12.

Brown is a writer, performer, producer, Springsteen tribute artist and world-class guitarist. Cristy is a singer/songwriter, award-winning pianist and a former member of John Mellancamp's band.

“Jenn & Eric Simply Acoustic & Simply Amazing” recreates some of the most popular music of all time and includes songs from many genres, including rock, pop, blues, folk and original work.

The performance will be at the Lorraine Theatre, 324 E. Main, Hoopeston. Tickets are \$25 and are available online at www.thelorraine theatre.com.



JENN CRISTY &
ERIC BROWN



Firemen from three departments fight a house fire at 704 E. Elm Tuesday morning.

Wood stove fire destroys local family's home

Three people are without a home after a wood stove caught fire and destroyed their home.

Marisa Nieman, Thyrl Fisk and a reported, unidentified third person were in the house, at 704 E. Elm, when the blaze ignited but escaped before Hoopeston Fire Department arrived, shortly

See FIRE on other side

Bid continued from other side

which work should be done and life changes for those who initially volunteered to do the work.

Meanwhile, parts of the frame which had been erected were exposed to the weather and some pieces bowed.

Ferrell said the work should have been done last year, adding the cost does not include furnishings or electric service.

Porth said he “felt the price tag was higher than what it should be.”

In unrelated action, the council voted 7-1 to have the public swimming pool open next year, with Ald.

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Lourdine Florek being the lone “no” vote.

In 2020, the city was having a difficult time finding youngsters to work as lifeguards. Covid shut things down, making the issue moot.

This March, Florek reported to the council that, in trying to get an early start on finding lifeguards, there was little success. Between that, plus an average pool deficit of more than \$77,000 for each of the preceding 10 years and less income coming into the city, Florek said the pool would not open.

Instead, she suggested expanding the splash pad with features for older youth, which would provide something

Fire continued from other side

after 10:39 a.m. Tuesday.

Firemen arrived to find the structure fully involved, with heavy smoke and flames coming from the house. Rossville and Wellington fire departments were also called to the scene.

Hoopeston Fire Chief Joel Bird said a first floor wood stove was the cause of the fire. A damage estimate was not available. Due to the amount of damage, the house was excavated.

for kids to do while eliminating the pool deficit.

Citizens formed a group to save the pool and, in April, then-Ald. Bill Goodwine, finance chairman and a staunch pool supporter, suggested using \$68,000 from the pool accruals to fund the pool this year. His request was approved and the pool opened June 5. Last month, Florek announced the pool had a \$43,325.50 loss this season.

After the meeting, Florek said her consistent votes against funding the pool isn’t personal. “I donated to the pool,” she said, “but that was me donating my own money, not taxpayer dollars.” To try to help the effort, Florek, who owns Just the Facts, said she covered many pool-related activities, including volunteers cleaning the pool house, painting the start of a mural, opening day and installation of the portable stairs.

In related business, the council heard from pool manager Kristi Hudson, who thanked aldermen for the opportunity to be the manager. Hudson said she tried to be frugal, improve the pool’s image and try new activities to draw more people to the pool. Swimmers came from surrounding communities, including Danville, Rantoul and Paxton, she said.

Briefly Alley cleanup

Hoopeston alley cleanup next week and the week after. Residents are asked to pile yard waste at their alley, or for those who have no alley, at curbside but not in the street. Cleanup is for yard waste only. Piles with plastic, lumber, landscape materials, concrete or bricks will not be picked up.

Tire collection
A free tire collection for Hoopeston residents will be held at 8-10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 6 at McFerren Park Annex. Enter on South Ninth Ave. off West Elm. The collection is for car and truck tires only. Residents may dispose of up to six tires. Semi, tractor, and tires from businesses, will not be accepted.

Those unable to come that day or who have no way to get tires to the collection are asked to call Ald. Kellie Ferrell, (217) 597-5760 with number of tires before November 6.

Weather

Sunny today. High 47. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 29. Tomorrow, sunny. High 51, low 32.

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

Classifieds

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Looking for a great job in the medical field? Interested in natural healthcare? Busy chiropractic office needs a team-oriented person with good customer service and phone skills. Candidate will be trained to assist with patient care. Robinson Chiropractic has 4 locations in Illinois: Danville, Hoopeston, Westville, and Watseka. Please send resume to trina.keller@robchiro.com.

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Full-Fill Industries in Henning is **HIRING!** New starting wage is \$18/hour. Full-time positions with benefits and part-time positions available for 1st and 2nd shifts. Apply at www.full-fill.com/employment-opportunities Applications available onsite. EOE

United Prairie-Hoopeston has opening this Fall for the following: CDL Drivers and Non-CDL. Pick up applications at 18978 E 3850 North Rd Hoopeston. For more information call 217/888 -0164.

East Lynn Fertilizer is seeking a full time applicator. Call 217-375-4225 or stop by 41284 S Main St., East Lynn, IL for more details.

Silver Brothers is looking for part-time mixer drivers. Hours will vary. Must have Class B CDL, pass a drug test, be able to climb a ladder, and lift 75 lbs. Pay will be \$20/hour to an experienced driver. Perfect opportunity for a retired person wanting some extra money. Stop by 105 E. Washington, Hoopeston for application.

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

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 St. in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

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