

Bertha's C o r n e r



By
BERTHA PARSONS

Change

Change is in the air! I can feel it, smell it and hopefully, embrace it! No matter how old I get, change never changes, it is always with me, always happening! It is not until I run into a friend at the grocery store that I have not seen in awhile, and cannot remember her name or if that is how she looked the last time I saw her! I am grateful she doesn't know that I don't know and we chat like the old friends that we are. My husband asks, "Who was that?" My reply: just an old friend. Which is true. Our seasons of life are different now.

As we go from one season to the next, we modify, replace, shift and transform. For some, it seems a never ending change, but you know, it has helped to make me more thankful and aware of my life.

It seems the more we want to stay the same, the more we change. Would I turn back the hands of time? No. However I wouldn't mind looking 18 again. Do I want to go back in time when we were all as secure as we were before 9/11? To a time where no respectable adult would dream of using their home to produce a thing call "meth"! Back to a time when it was not necessary for both parents to work 40 hours a week to make ends meet? Yes, I would

like to go back to a softer time, where the family, Mother, Father and children ate together. Where Elvis was the worse music played and we could eat anything we wanted without it killing us!

Presidents, mayors, tax referendums, new officials, heavy coats and gloves, homemade soups and falling leaves are all evidence of change. It is a constant reminder of life. Just think how lucky you and I are, really, to live in a place where we can live, laugh, cry and be happy is all possible in our world.

How awesome that in a world of rapid change, friends, old and new, are willing to hang onto us as we change! That's a good thing! I like to believe I am the same this year as I was last year or three years ago! What do you think? Ok, you can lie to me, that's alright. Change! It's happening and you either get in the boat or you get left standing on the shore. Let's be thankful for the changes every day. Are you planning your future with change or do you think nothing will change? Do what must be done to make the changes positive for each of us, our family and our future! Change is really up to YOU. Nothing is impossible when we work together, let's do it!

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Louridine Florek, Owner

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Firefighters from three departments were called Sunday evening to the former Coffee Cup on Rt. 1

Cause not determined for blaze at former Coffee Cup

Hoopeston Fire Department arrived Sunday at the former Coffee Cup restaurant, 517 N. Dixie Hwy., to find the building fully ablaze.

But Fire Chief Joel Bird doesn't know why.

The department, along with those from Rossville and Wellington, and Hoopeston Police, were called shortly

before 5 p.m. to the scene. Once the fire was extinguished, firemen began investigating and have come up with no reason why the fire began.

"There was no power, there was no gas," Bird said.

Asked about speculation on social media that the fire

See **BLAZE** on other side

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From the Blotter

Jessica Wilson, 39, of Attica, Ind., was arrested after a traffic stop at 10:23 p.m. Sunday at East Orange and South Sixth Ave. Found to have a suspended Indiana license, she was charged with driving while license suspended and released on a notice to

Blaze continued from other side

may have been started by squatters, Bird said there were no signs of any substance that could have ignited.

The fire is still under investigation. Bird discussed it with an Illinois State Fire Marshal representative, both of whom agreed the cause will probably not be known.

The fire began in a back room of the former local diner, where patrons could grab breakfast after local watering holes closed. More recently, an automotive shop had been there. In recent memory, the building was empty.

Bird said building owner Justin Acton reported he had planned to tear the building down.

Firemen were on the scene for about two hours, appear in Vermilion County Court.

Police are investigating a report made at 9:22 p.m. Sunday. A 34-year-old Hoopeston man reported someone broke his door in the 600 block of East McCracken.

with Rt. 1 closed to traffic from Elm to Penn as the departments worked to put a damper on the flames.

As word of the fire spread, residents converged on McFerren Park, parking along the fence, carefully avoiding guy wires holding lighted Christmas displays in place. Many took to social media to share nostalgic stories of the Coffee Cup.

No injuries were reported.

Weather

Mostly cloudy, chance of rain today. High 41. Tonight, rain likely. Low 32. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 42, low 31.

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

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Hoopeston Area CUSD #11 is accepting applications for a part time computer technician assistant. Duties include providing desktop support, assisting with infrastructure and A/V projects. <https://phl.applitrack.com/roe54/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=Technology>

NAPA Hoopeston is looking for a full time Counter/Delivery person. Successful candidate will be very knowledgeable about automotive/truck parts and computers, able to answer phones and wait on customers. Must do daily and monthly paperwork and be capable of doing all activities the store manager does in case of his absence. ASE certified counter person preferred but not required. If interested, pick up a application at NAPA 226 E Main St. Hoopeston.

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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.

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NOTICES

Contents of shed #67, Thomas J. Wray, at Budget Mini Storage Rt. 9 and 6th Ave. Hoopeston, IL will be disposed of on December 31, 2021, per section 95-4 of Illinois Self Storage Facility Act.

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