

 **2022 Hoopeston FFA Alumni**
SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION
Saturday, January 29, 2022
The Legion
Silent Auction 4-6 p.m.
 502 E. Penn, Hoopeston
 Meal serving begins at 4:30 p.m. (free will donation)
Live Auction 6 p.m.

Paxton Area  **C/U Area**
 217-841-4728 217 566-5005
DOGTOWN
 Heating, Air & Plumbing
"Your Home's Best Friend"
Dogtownheatingandair.com

The PIT STOP at FAST LANES
Lunch & Dinner Specials
Monday: Meatloaf, Taco Salad and 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
Start your day with us!
Weekday Breakfast Hours
5:30-10 a.m.
Open 6 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Sat.
6 a.m.-1 p.m. Sun.
Breakfast Buffet:
7-10 a.m. Sat. 7 a.m.-Noon Sun.



Email: publish@justthefacts.net **Just the Facts** Phone/Fax: (217) 283-9348
 Lourdine Florek, Owner
Friday, January 14, 2022
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Health administrator explains new contact tracing system

Editor's note: Public Health Administrator Doug Toole submitted the following, explaining a new statewide contact tracing system which was set to start Thursday in Vermilion County and new quarantine guidelines for those who test positive for COVID-19,

Vermilion County Health Department is continuing its efforts to serve our community, and to keep our community informed, during this pandemic.

The volume of new COVID-19 cases is higher than the staff of our health department – and the staff at most local health departments across the state – can properly manage.

Months ago, the Illinois Department of Public Health hired its own COVID-19 contact tracers – known as the Surge Center – to assist local health departments that were

struggling to keep up with new cases. Starting on Thursday, January 13, the Surge Center will take over primary responsibilities for COVID-19 contact tracing in Illinois, and local health departments will focus on COVID-19 outbreaks in congregate-living facilities. Other states have used similar processes to centralize COVID-19 contact tracing and to reduce call volumes for local

health departments.

Those who test positive for COVID-19 should receive a text message from the State, instructing them to call 1-312-777-1999 to be screened by a Surge Center contact tracer, to find out their release-from-isolation date, and to have a release letter sent to them. Those who test positive for COVID and who do not receive a text message from the State can still call 1-312-777-1999 to “opt-in” to

the system and receive a release date and a letter. Those who test positive for COVID-19 and do not call will be considered to have “opted-out” of the contact-tracing process, will have their cases auto-closed after a few days, and will not receive a release letter.

In any event, when a person tests positive for COVID-19 (regardless of vaccination status) – whether

they “opt-in” and are screened by a contact tracer, or they “opt-out” and do not call – they must isolate at home for at least five days from the onset of symptoms or from the date of testing (whichever came first), and then are released from isolation on day six. They should not leave isolation if still experiencing strong COVID-19-like

See TRACING on other side

CDC says omicron less deadly than delta

As cases of the omicron strain of Covid-19 are skyrocketing across the country and the world, Rochelle Walensky, director of the Centers for Disease Control, said that while the variant makes up about 98 percent of cases in the country, it has a 91 percent reduction in adjusted risk of death, a 53 percent reduction in adjusted risk of symptomatic hospitalization and 74 percent reduction in adjusted risk of ICU admission.

Figures come from a Kaiser Permanente Southern California data report using mathematical modeling to estimate risk other factors and is based on a study of more than 52,000 cases of omicron and 17,000 of delta. The study showed no patients with omicron required to be placed on ventilators. Also, those with omicron had shorter hospital stays – with a median of 1.5 days, compared to roughly five days for delta.

While less severe, omicron is more easily transmissible, resulting in a sharp increase in the number of cases. It is the higher number of cases - over a million each day - that has led to a high number of total hospitalizations, she said.

Locally, between January 3-12, the number of positive cases in Hoopeston went from 1,583 to 1,745. Other communities tracked by Just the Facts include Alvin, up from 156 to 187; Bismarck 347-379; Potomac 332 to 364; Rankin 184-215; and Rossville, 438 to 508. In Iroquois County, Wellington increased from 108 to 117; Milford 448 to 487; Cissna Park 369 to 397 and Watseka 1,230 to 1,346.

New Year's Special
20% off Full Service Oil Change
 10W30, 5W30 or 5W20 w/coupon. Expires 1/31/22
Hoopeston Express Lube
 Rtes. 1 & 9, Hoopeston
 283-5373 www.quicklube4u.com



Call us today at 855-692-7824 to get water delivered to your home or business or visit our office at 102 N 1st Ave. in Hoopeston to pick up your water!



AQUALITY SOLUTIONS, LLC.

DATE NIGHT! 
SATURDAY NIGHTS
4-11PM
HALF PRICE BOTTLE OF WINE WITH DINNER OR APPETIZERS.
DINE IN ONLY



Tracing continued from other side

symptoms – fever, vomiting, diarrhea, shortness of breath, difficulty staying awake, uncontrollable coughing – but can leave isolation after five days if their symptoms have resolved, or if only minor symptoms remain -- mild fatigue, occasional dry coughing, loss of senses of taste or smell.

Also, in any event, when a person tests positive for COVID-19 (regardless of vaccination status) – whether they “opt-in” and are screened by a contact tracer, or they “opt-out” and do not call – those living with them and other close contacts may have to quarantine for five days from the last day of contact, and then are released from quarantine on day six. Close contacts tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 90 days, or who received booster shots or who received their second dose of Moderna or Pfizer within the past six months or a dose of Johnson & Johnson within the past two months, should not have to quarantine – unless they start to develop COVID-19-like symptoms.

There are three messages we want to emphasize.

First is that the Surge Center is now the primary means of getting a COVID-19 screening, a release-from-isolation date, and a release letter. The Surge Center can be reached at 1-312-777-1999. The Surge Center employ-

ees are state employees, and are not our employees. This is being done to centralize the contact-tracing process, to make the process more efficient, and to relieve some of the burden on local health departments.

Second is that it is extremely difficult to keep up with this large volume of new COVID-19 cases. If you require your employees, your students or your daycare children to produce specific letters of release following their COVID-19-isolation periods or COVID-19-exposure quarantine periods, understand that you are placing a hardship on them. We cannot guarantee that employees, students or children in daycare will have a specific letter by the time of their release from isolation or quarantine. If you have the power to allow a return to work, school or daycare with proof of a positive test and the completion of a five-day isolation period from that test, please do so.

Third is that Vermilion County residents have the tools to reduce severe illnesses from this pandemic, which include vaccinations, boosters, masking, social distancing, handwashing, disinfecting, testing and staying home when sick. Please take steps to protect yourselves and those around you from severe illnesses.

Please visit our website, www.vchd.org, for more information.

From the Blotter

Jason Reyes, 34, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were called about an alarm at 7:23 p.m. Wednesday at HART Animal Shelter, 901 W. Main. Arriving at the scene, officers found a door to be opened and damaged. Police said an investigation showed Reyes was previously inside the shelter.

He was found and arrested on preliminary charges of criminal damage to state supported property, burglary and escape. He was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

Briefly

HAHS, HAMS closed for Covid

Classes at Hoopeston Area High School and Hoopeston Area Middle School were canceled Thursday and Friday due to the high number of positive Covid-19 cases. Remote learning was set for both days.

Bulk garbage day

Bulk garbage day, for Hoopeston residents only, will be held from 7:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday at Hoopeston City Hall parking lot. Residents are limited to one load per bulk day and must unload their own load or bring someone to help. Dumping of electronics, appliances, paint, liquids, tires, batteries, yard waste, construction/demolition material or anything that fits in the provided blue totes is not allowed. Items from apartments with a dumpster will not be allowed and items from businesses and contractors will not be permitted.

Addiction recovery group

Addiction recovery group for men. 6 p.m. Sundays in Rossville. Call or text 217-304-4211 or 217-260-1361 for details.

Library implements changes

Covid guidelines will be enforced at Hoopeston Public Library due to the surge in cases. They include:

- Masks for all those in the building over the age of two.
- Computers, fax and copy service are still available to the public. Computer use will be limited to 30 minutes.
- Patrons are encouraged to make visits as brief as possible. Social distancing should be observed.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today. High 34. Tonight, chance of snow. Low 19. Tomorrow, clearing. High 26, low 13. Sunday, mostly sunny. High 29, low 19.

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

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

City of Hoopeston is accepting applications for swimming pool assistant manager and lifeguards. Application and job description are available at www.cityofhoopeston.com or at Hoopeston City Hall, 301 W. Main St.

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.

KS i is looking for qualified candidates for the seasonal position of Production Associate in our Cissna Park facility. This position is primarily responsible for mechanical assembly of conveyors and final units. Potential candidates should possess a beginner level of mechanical skills and have a strong work ethic. Position would be M-F workweeks up to 45 hours per week. Majority of work would be in heated shop for cold winter months. Fill out an application from our website, www.ksiedge.com, send inquiries to hr@ksiedge.com, or call 785-284-0600 ext. 1422. Applications may also be picked up at our location: 454 N State Route 49, Cissna Park, IL 60924.

Teasdale Latin Foods is hiring for a new temporary position. Competitive pay, 5-6 hrs./day, five days a week. Great for retirees, college students or someone laid off looking to work part time. Apply in person or online: <https://teasdale-latin-foods.breezy.hr/>

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is HIRING! Apply at www.full-fill.com/employmentopportunities Applications available onsite. EOE

HA 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>

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.

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.

Old is GOLD!

Get rid of your unwanted items with a

Just the Facts classified.

Email publish@justthefacts.net

or call (217) 283-9348



People are talking
about the great results they get advertising in
Just the Facts.

Whether you have products to sell, services to offer, are looking for employees (or looking for a job),
Consider **Just the Facts.**
Talk to our regular advertisers to see why they continue to spend their advertising dollars with us.
Or contact us and let us tell you what **Just the Facts** can do for you!

publish@justthefacts.net
(217) 283-9348

Speech bubbles contain the following text:
- I quit and sales dropped. A LOT!
- I'm back!
- People now know about my business!
- Money well spent!
- Thank you!
- It's Affordable!
- Sign It's the best place for ads!