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Just the Facts

Thursday, March 17, 2022

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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Lourdine Florek, Owner

www.justthefacts.net

Watseka man plans new NAPA store, asks city for help; fireworks show 'up in the air': Wise

A Watseka man is asking for assistance from Hoopeston in relocating a downtown business.

NAPA owner Roger Dittrich told Hoopeston City Council Tuesday evening that he plans to open a new 6,000 sq. ft. NAPA store on property south of Heritage Health on Rt. 1.

"I haven't had very much luck here in Hoopeston," Dittrich told the council, saying he was in Hoopeston four years ago about relocating his store to the former Essex building, which did not happen.

Four years later, Dittrich plans to purchase land from Hoopeston Retirement Village Foundation. "I'm here to see what the city can do for me," he said, detailing the benefits his new store will provide. The \$400,000 store will create additional property taxes and a minimum 30 percent increase in sales, bringing in more tax dollars to Hoopeston.

"I'm here to ask what I can do to get the permits, water and sewer taps, all those things that need to be done," he continued. "I'd like to break ground when the weather breaks, unless I hit another road block, which, as I said, I haven't had much luck in Hoopeston."

Mayor Jeff Wise said he has been working with the attorney to subdivide and plat the property. He asked whether the city has water to the site.

Ald. Lourdine Florek, city water chairman, said Hoopeston ran new lines to the site when the new Heritage Health was built, so a ready water supply is available.

Wise said he and HRVF president Dave McFadden are working to get the legalities in order and the project move ahead. "As far as getting you started, It's just a question of knocking on the attorneys," which both men are trying to do.

"I hope I get a little better treatment here than I have in the past," Dittrich said, adding, "I haven't had good luck in the past. I'm not looking for a free ride."

In other business, fireworks were discussed in two separate ways.

During the public comment part of the meeting, Lee Cox, owner of Cox Memorials, addressed the council

about selling fireworks from his business. Cox has been in contact with the State Fire Marshal's office and Fire Chief Joel Bird, who said he has no objections. Cox said he thought about selling fireworks from his rural Hoopeston home, which would mean Vermilion County would get the sales tax. However, he decided against that, preferring to sell them at his business, with Hoopeston getting the sales tax.

Later in the meeting, Wise said "fireworks for this year

in Hoopeston is up in the air."

Wise and McFadden discussed whether Hoopeston will have a fireworks display this year.

"There is concern about supply and cost," Wise said. "If the city wants fireworks this year, we're definitely going to have to work for it."

The company that provided Hoopeston's pyrotechnic display was bought out by a larger company, which has put Hoopeston on its schedule, Wise said, adding "the \$25,000 show is probably going to be closer to \$40,000."

The city's usual donation of \$5,000 "is five minutes of fireworks."

Wise and McFadden have discussed "do we even want
See STORE on other side



Roger Dittrich addresses Hoopeston City Council Tuesday about a new NAPA store.

Rossville Family Restaurant
is celebrating
St. Patrick's Day with you!
Serving up Corned Beef & Cabbage
Thursday, March 17th
Dine in or Carry Out available
715 S. Chicago (217) 748-6201

Bertha wants to hear from you!

- Future Topics
- Your response to an article
- Comments e-mail

BerthasCorner@gmail.com



Briefly

Breast cancer support meeting

Hoopeston Breast Cancer Support Group meets at 6 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the Pit Stop at Fast Lanes Bowling Alley. The next meeting is March 17.

Please spread the word and join us for a meeting to offer support to past and present breast cancer survivors.

For more information, call Pat Foster, (815) 984-4040 or (309) 208-9829.

Grave decorations must be removed

The Ross/South Ross Cemetery District will be removing all decorations from its cemeteries during the week of March 12 thru March 19. This includes the cemeteries of Rossville, Mann's Chapel, Bethel, Miller, and Prairie Chapel.

Weather

Partly sunny today. High 70. Tonight, mostly cloudy, chance of rain. Low 46. Tomorrow, rain. High 64, low 37.

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

Store continued from other side

to fight this," the mayor said. Another option would be to partner with another community, "but who would host it? That would be a catfight."

Residents who want to volunteer may form a committee to collect donations. "They don't have to be approved by me, they just have to go around begging for money."

In other discussion Florek reported that Chaz Landers

From the Blotter

Roger D. Catron, 64, of Hoopeston, was cited after officers were sent at 4:35 p.m. Tuesday to the 700 block of North Market for a possible illegal burn.

He was asked to put out the fire and was ticketed for burning of trash and refuse and released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

Marty Fink, 68, of Hoopeston, was arrested after officers were called to the area of East Honeywell at 10:59 p.m. Tuesday. He was charged with battery on a complaint from a 39-year-old Hoopeston woman who alleged he threatened her with a weapon.

Fink was released on a notice to appear in Vermilion County Court.

is the water department's new employee. Landers was employed by the parks department and turned in his two weeks' notice and will begin working full time with the water department after that.

In unrelated discussion, Florek said she has been working with representatives of Casey's General Store to relocate the Drivin' the Dixie sign to their property. She was notified Tuesday that that will not happen. In an

email, a member of the company's legal division said that while the company wants to be a good neighbor in our communities, there is not an opportune location for the sign. "There is considerable amount of concrete at this location with the additional diesel truck islands," the email said. "Casey's anticipates additional truck traffic in which we would have safety concerns for our guests with the addition of a sign placement."

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Rossville Family Restaurant is accepting applications for servers. Need to be available evenings and weekends. Room to grow into day shift and catering. Experience a plus but not necessary. Apply in person and fill out an application.

Hoopeston business is looking for an employee with data entry and telephone skills and multiple other office duties. Send resume to publish@justthefacts.net.

Iroquois County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications for full – and part time correctional officers, responsible for the daily supervision and care of arrestees brought to and/or detained at the Iroquois County Jail. Must be high school graduate or have GED, Iroquois County resident at time of employment (for full time) submit to criminal background check and have basic computer skills. Full time starting salary is \$39,685.65, part time wage is \$15/hr. Applications may be picked up at the Iroquois County Jail/Sheriff's Office, 550 S. Tenth, Watseka or online at iroquoiscountyil.gov/offices/sheriff. Completed applications/resumes may be mailed to the above address or emailed to cperzee@co.iroquois.il.us. EOE

Silgan Containers, Hoopeston, is hiring for a Plant Human Resources Generalist. To apply or for more information, please use this link: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/12231

Silgan Containers, Hoopeston, is hiring for a Production Supervisor/Manager Trainee. To apply or for more information, please visit this link: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/12540/0

Hoopeston hair salon looking for a cosmetologist, nail tech and esthetician. 765-413-3062

City of Hoopeston Cemetery is seeking applicants for a fulltime position. Candidate must have a valid driver's license and high school diploma or equivalent. Computer skills are necessary. Potential supervisory roll with proper training and licensing. Applications available at www.cityofhoopeston.com under the Services tab/Employment Opportunities or City Hall, 301 W Main St.

City of Hoopeston Cemetery is seeking applicants for a seasonal position. Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Applications available at www.cityofhoopeston.com under

the Services tab/Employment Opportunities or City Hall, 301 W Main St.

United Prairie-Hoopeston has opening this Spring for the following: CDL Drivers and Non-CDL. Please pick up applications at 18978 E 3850 North Rd Hoopeston, IL 60942. For more information please call 217/888-0164 or Manager Jordan Reese 217/918-2876.

City of Hoopeston Police Department is taking applications for the position of probationary police officer. Applications will be accepted until the testing date of April 2, 2022. Testing will begin at 10 a.m. April 2 at Hoopeston Area Middle School Library for the written test. The physical agility test will take place immediately after the written exam.

Silgan Containers is hiring for Press Line Mechanics. Please apply online at: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/12464/0

Silgan Containers is hiring for an Electrician-Industrial/Maintenance position. Please apply online at: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/12406/0

City of Hoopeston Police Department is taking applications for certified police officers/part time certification is recognized. Applications will be ongoing; no deadline applies for certified officers.

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

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.

Aquility 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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