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Email:



Tuesday, August 30, 2022

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P.O. Box 441. Hoopeston IL 60942

www.justthefacts.net

Lourdine Florek, Owner

New royalty, Sweetheart partner, old favorites at 78th festival

Regulars of the National Sweetcorn Festival are used to the royalty that comes each year in the form of queens who would like to be Miss National Sweetheart. This year's festival has a new category of royalty that's a little closer to home.

Hoopeston Jaycees, who sponsor the annual festival, this year added the Sweetcorn Festival King and Queen contest. The online-only event sought nominees of those 65 and older, who love the Sweetcorn Festival and Hoopeston community, said event chairman Lauren Li-

The contest was announced on Facebook in early July and when voting ended on August 12, the winners chosen were Marguerite "Marg" Swan Shoufler and Mile Lawson. Both will be featured in the grand parade starting at 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

While the National Sweetheart Pageant isn't new, organizers have a new affiliation from which to draw National Sweetheart contestants.

This year, the pageant began a partnership with the Miss Volunteer America Pageant, with all contestants being runners-up in their home state's Miss Volunteer Pageant, Linares said.

While never officially a part of the Miss American system, previous to 2016, first runners-up from state pageants leading to Miss America would come to Hoopeston to compete, with many then trying again for Miss America. From 1980 to 1985, five former National Sweethearts went on to win the Miss America crown.

In 2016, Miss America officially distanced itself from the National Sweetheart Pageant and prohibited all state candidates from competing at the Hoopeston pageant.

This pageant has a field of 15 vying to be Miss National Sweetheart. Miss Hoopeston Lexie Breymeyer, is their hostess for their visit here.

Preliminary competition will begin at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, with finals at 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Online tickets are \$25 for Saturday and \$30 for Sunday or \$30 and \$35, respectively, at the door.

The other new thing this year was the creation of Friends of the Festival donation program, which gave festival enthusiasts the opportunity to donate to their favorite festival activity, such as the pageant, demo, and others. "We would like to thank all of our donors who supported various areas of the 78th festival," Linares said. All donors will be featured on a banner placed near the corn line and in the festival book.

It wouldn't be a festival without crowd favorites, and this year's celebration will be no different. Demo derbies will be held Saturday and Sunday, sponsored by Hoopeston Jaycees and On the Gas Promotions.

See FESTIVAL on other side

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Thursday, Sept. 1

5 pm Gates Open (\$3 Admission)

Vendor Area & Midway Opens 5 - 10 pm Ride Special -

Bracelet Night

6:30 - 9 pm Bingo

(Jaycees Shelter) 6:30 - 9 pm Souvenir Sales

(Jaycees Shelter)

11 pm Midway &

Vendor Area Closes

Friday, Sept. 2

5 pm Gates Open (\$3 Admission) Vendor Area & Midway Opens

5 - 10 pm Ride Special -

Bracelet Night

5 - 8 pm Seasonal Disorder Band

(Beer Tent)
9 pm - 1 am Cougar Trap Band

(Beer Tent)
11 pm Midway & Vendor Area Closes

Saturday, Sept. 3

6 am Flea Market Opens

6:30 - 7:30 am Bill Orr Memorial 5K

Registration (Sculpt Fitness -

Downtown)

7:30 am 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk (Sculpt Fitness)

8 am Bill Orr Memorial 5K (Sculpt Fitness)

8 - 1 pm Car Show Registration (

Southeast Corner McFerren Park)

8:45 am Little Corn Eaters Fun Run (Sculpt Fitness)

9 am Gates Open (\$3 Admission)

10:30 am Grand Parade (Downtown)

12 pm Midway Opens Ride

Special All Day

Display Area Opens

12:30 - 2:30 pm Clave Caribe Band (Center Stage)

12:30 - 5 pm Souvenir Sales (Center Stage)

1:30 - 5 pm FREE SWEETCORN

3 pm Car Show Awards Presented Annex

Grandstand Opens Beer Garden Opens (Annex)

3 - 5 pm Beyond Carolina Band (Center Stage)

5 pm Demolition Derby I

Classes: Vans & Compact Figure 8, Wire Trucks, Full Sized Mod Class, Sweetcorn Shootout Drag Races

6:30 pm National Sweetheart Pageant Preliminary (Civic Center)

9 pm - 1 am Wise Guys Band (Beer Tent)

11 pm Midway & Vendor Area Closes

1 am Beer Garden & Tent Closes

Sunday, Sept. 4

8 am Flea Market Opens 9 am Gates Open (\$3 Admission)

11 am Children's Fishing Derby Registration (Crabtree Shelter) 12 pm Midway Opens Ride Special - All Day Vendor Area Opens Children's Fishing Derby (Lagoon)

Children's Pie Eating Contest (Center Stage)

12 - 4:00 pm

FREE SWEETCORN

12 - 5 pm Souvenir Sales (Center Stage)

12:30 pm Pony Tail Contest (Center Stage)

1 - 2:30 pm Kasey Burton Music (Center Stage)

3 pm Annex Grandstand Opens 3 - 5 pm Nuthin' Fancy Band (Center Stage)

5 pm Demolition Derby II Classes: Modwire, Bonestock Compacts, Vans, 80's Wire Bonestock

5 p.m. Beer Garden Opens (Annex)

6:30 pm National Sweetheart Pageant Finals (Civic Center) 8 pm - 12 am 80s Dance Party

All Day I Dream About Songs DJ (Beer Tent)

9 pm National Sweetheart Pageant Reception (Civic Center)

11 pm Midway & Vendor Area Closes

12 am Beer Garden & Tent Closes

Monday, Sept. 5

78th National

Sweetcorn Festival

Hoopeston, IL

September 1-5, 2022

slome is where the sweetcom grow

8 am Flea Market Opens

9 am Gates Open (\$3 Admission) Vendor Area Opens

9 am - 9:45 am Cream of the Crop Pretty Baby Contest Registration (Civic Center)

10 am Cream of the Crop Pretty Baby Contest (Civic Center)

12 pm Midway Opens Ride Special - All Day

12 - 1:30 pm Thompson's Tunes Children's Show (Center Stage)

12 - 4 pm FREE SWEETCORN

Souvenir Sales (Center Stage)

2 - 4 pm J.E.T. Band (Center Stage)

2:30 - 4:30 pm Bingo (Jaycees Shelter)

9 pm Midway Closes Vendor Area Closes

Please bring your own chair to sit at the center stage Jaycees have the right to alter this schedule

GATE FEE: THURSDAY THRU MONDAY \$3.00 (7 AND UNDER FREE)

Briefly

Koffee & Konversation

Hoopeston Methodist Church will hold Koffee & Konversation at 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Free coffee, sweets and conversation. All are welcome!

Women's Donut Group

Women's Morning Donut Group meets at 8:15 a.m. every Wednesday in the large room at Hoopeston Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave. Come join us!

Scheduling change

Hoopeston Lions Club will not open their stand in

Festival continued from other side

Grandstands open at 3 p.m. each day, with derbies starting at 5 p.m.

The Sweetcorn Classic Race is back this year. Sculpt Fitness will host the 1 mile Fun Run, Bill Orr Memorial 5K and Little Corn Eaters Race Saturday morning. Participants may sign up in advance at https://bit.ly/3MTy5NQ or from 6:30-7:30 a.m. Saturday.

Other activities include the annual car show, bands in the beer tent, kids fishing derby, pony tail contest and Center Stage entertainment, bingo, and of course, free sweetcorn. Twenty-six tons of corn will be trucked to Hoopeston

This is Linares' second year of involvement with the festival. She served in 2019 as Miss Hoopeston, when she found the Hoopeston Jaycees to be, "Great examples of community-oriented citizens," who encouraged her to continue volunteering in the community. That encouragement prompted her to volunteer to serve as this year's chairman.

While active in festival activities recently, her memories of the festival go back to her childhood. Her favorite thing, the grand parade, is featured in the logo for her festival, which features the steam engine, marching band, Miss Hoopeston float and a Sweetheart contestant approaching McFerren Park. As for the theme, "All Hoopeston past and current residents know 'home is where the sweetcorn grows,' and we extend a warm welcome to all of our visitors for our annual festival."

Weather

Sunny today. High 81. Tonight, clear. Low 56. Tomorrow, sunny. High 80, low 56.

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

McFerren Park this weekend. Instead, the Hoopeston Area Girls Softball will be operate out of the building selling food items during the National Sweetcorn Festival.

No Moms' meeting

The monthly Moms Group that meets the first Monday of each month at the Multi Agency will not meet this Friday.

Bible drive

First Church of God is partnering with Project Bible Runners to gather and run bibles to every nation, tribe and person until every faithful follower of Christ Jesus has a bible.

We encourage every church to place a box in their church to collect bibles until the bible drive we will have from 12-2 on October 16 at First Church of God.

We also take monetary donations to purchase bibles in native languages.

For more information or to get involved, contact Nikki Wilson at 217-495-2274 for more information.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Fall help wanted at United Prairie, 18979 E 2850 N Rd., Hoopeston. Call Jordan Reese, (217) 888-0164 (office) or (217) 918-2876 (cell).

Fast Lanes is looking for experienced cooks for some breakfasts, days and evenings. If interested come to Fast Lanes, 719 W. Elm. NO PHONE CALLS.

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is HIRING, starting pay \$18/hour. Apply at www.full-fill.com or applications available on-site. EOE

Premier Cooperative is looking to fill fall seasonal (operational & scale) positions at Rossville, Ellis, Collison, Reilly, Dillsburg, and Royal. Call 217-599-0310.

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.

HOUSES FOR RENT

2 bedroom duplex ground level for rent in Hoopeston. Please text or call 217-495-2274.