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Just the Facts

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Lourdine Florek, Owner

Monday, December 12, 2022

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

www.justthefacts.net

Downtown businesspeople mourn death of man who brought smiles, greetings to Main St.

A bit of kindness died last week with the passing of Stephen Eugene Johnson.

Many Hoopeston residents may not have known his name, but anyone who spent time during the day driving downtown probably noticed the man who daily walked from his Centennial Manor apartment up Third St. and west on Main, waving, smiling and telling people "hi."

News of Mr. Johnson's death Wednesday sent shockwaves among downtown business owners and employees.

"When we opened in March of 2020, we had no idea how blessed we would become by the relationships we would make with our customers," said Emily Brown, owner of 112 Wine & Coffee Shoppe.

"One unforgettable regular patron was our good friend, Stephen," who came into the shop several times each

day, for coffee, snacks and meals. "At first, he was a little shy with us, but soon he knew the names of every employee," Brown said. "He joked and laughed with us and became part of our 112 family. Other customers began to build relationships with him, too.

"Stephan walked up and down Main Street all day, greeting people and sharing his beautiful smile with everyone he met," she said. He "became very special to each of our employees, so that we noticed if he didn't come in for a few hours.

"We hope that Stephan enjoyed his time with us at 112, but the truth is, he gave us more than we could have ever given him. Every time he stepped through the door at 112, he brought us joy and happiness. May you rest in peace, Dear Stephen. You will always be a part of the 112 family. We will miss you forever, friend."

The shop announced on its Facebook page that the

business will close from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday to "celebrate the life of a special customer and friend."

Bill and Jennifer Lind met Mr. Johnson when they purchased Pizza King last year. "He was already a regular customer," Jennifer Lind said. "The first thing we noticed was so polite and kind he was. He would always ask permission before he sat down, even if he was our only customer at the time. We will all greatly miss him and his kindness and know that he is smiling and waving at everyone from above, just as he did here."

Robin Lawson, of Mr. B's Café, also commented that Mr. Johnson is smiling down on Hoopeston. "We can be sure Heaven is smiling and wave down on Main Street in Hoopeston from now on," she said.

"We never spoke a word to each other, but I would look forward to seeing him sitting around the corner

See SMILES on other side

Briefly

Meetings

Hoopeston Area School Board, 6 p.m. Thursday, high school library. The board will immediately go into executive session. The public portion of the meeting will begin after. The agenda includes several personnel and purchasing items and is available at www.hoopeston.k12.il.us.

Koffee & Konversation

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

At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include: **Christmas Ornament** adult craft, 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 12. Pre-registration is recommended, but walk-ins will be welcome.

Littles @ The Library 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Pre-school story, craft and play time for children from birth to age 5 and their caregivers.

Coffee, Craft & Conversation 10 a.m.-noon Wednes-

days. Crochet, knit, sew and other needlecraft, along with those who do other portable handcrafts are inviting to bring their projects and enjoy a morning of fun and conversation!

For more information on library programs, call (217) 283-6711 or visit 110 N. Fourth St.

HMA activities

Activities at Hoopeston Multi Agency this week are:

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!

Card group meets Wednesday for euchre starting 12:30.

Multi Agency Store holiday hours are December 13 and December 19 open until 6:30.

For more information on Multi Agency programs, call (217) 283-5544 or stop by 206 S. First Ave.

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.



Come visit with Santa!
at
Rossville Family Restaurant
Wednesday, Dec. 14th 5-7 p.m.
715 S. Chicago (217) 748-6201

GIFT CERTIFICATES MAKE GREAT GIFTS!



Santa brings his sleigh to
Hoopeston Express Lube
Shouldn't you? **20% off**
10W30, 5W30 or 5W20 Full Service
w/cpn.. Expires 12/31/22 Oil Change
Rtes. 1 & 9, Hoopeston
283-5373 www.quicklube4u.com

The PIT STOP at EAST LANES
Lunch & Dinner Specials

Monday:	Meatloaf Taco Salad or 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, Rib eye steak, and Rib dinners

Breakfast served 5:30-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri.
5:30-11 Sat. 5:30-Noon Sun.
Breakfast Buffet
Sat. 7-10 a.m. Sun. 7 a.m.-Noon

We will close at 2 p.m. December 17 for a private party. No bowling that evening.
Closing at 1 p.m. Christmas Eve
Closed Christmas Day & New Year's Day

Spend New Year's Eve with us!
9 Pin Doubles Tournament
7 p.m. \$30/person
Open Bowling
Mondays & Tuesdays \$3/game

Obituaries

GREEN - Shirley Ann Green, 92, of Hoopeston, passed away at 30 p.m. Thursday, December 8, 2022, at Heritage Health Therapy and Senior Living in Hoopeston. She was born on July 20, 1930, in Danville, the daughter of Gerald Parker and Opal Marie (Wallen) Unger. She married Frank Lee "Skip" Green on April 13, 1951, in Peoria. He preceded her in death.

She was also preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Thomas Unger.

Shirley was a teacher for 50 years. She taught two years in Robstown, TX, three years in Urbana, 30 years in Hobart, IN, and later in Wildwood, FL until her retirement at the age of 71. She won many awards for her lesson plans, which were adopted by the State of Florida for underprivileged children, and her teaching techniques. She was a member of the Hoopeston United Methodist Church where she was very active. Shirley enjoyed playing bridge, sewing, reading, and cooking for her family and friends. She also enjoyed traveling with her husband and dog, Siegfried.

A visitation will be held 9 – 10 a.m. Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at Anderson Funeral Home, 427 E. Main St. Hoopeston. The funeral service will follow, beginning at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the funeral home with Pastor Kathy Murphy officiating. Burial will follow in Rossville Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Hoopeston United Methodist Church, 403 E. Main St. Hoopeston, IL 60942.

Anderson Funeral Home in Hoopeston is handling the

arrangements. Please visit www.anderson-funeral-home.com to view Shirley's eternal tribute page and to send the family condolences.

Anderson Funeral Home in Hoopeston is handling the arrangements.

GADDIS - Marjorie Gaddis, 88, of Hoopeston, died at 5:38 a.m. Friday, Dec. 9, 2022, at The Villas of Holly Brook in Chatham. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

GARRETT - Anna "Dids" "Maw" (Bryant) Garrett, 73, of Milford, died Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022, at home. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Thursday and 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. funeral Friday at Milford Christian Church. Burial will follow in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford. Memorials are suggested to donor's choice. Knapp Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Condolences may be shared at www.knappfuneralhomes.com.

KLOSKA - Martin John "Marty" Kloska, 90, of Hoopeston, died at 8:05 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2022, at Heritage Health, Hoopeston. He was cremated and a celebration of his life will be held at a later date. Illiana Cremation Society is handling arrangements. Condolences may be shared at www.illianacremationsociety.com.

TESREAU - Jerry C. Tesreau, 81, of Hoopeston, formerly of Fredericktown, Mo., died at 1:35 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, at home, surrounded by his family. Visitation will be 11:30 a.m. until the 1 p.m. celebration of his life Tuesday at First Baptist Church, Hoopeston. Burial will follow in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to First Baptist Church, 323 E. Semi-

nary Ave., Hoopeston IL 60942. Blurton Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Condolences may be left at www.blurtonfuneralhomes.com.

WILKEN - Marjann E. (Howard) Wilken, 74, of Watseka, formerly of Milford, died Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2022, at home. She was cremated and no services will be held. Memorials are suggested to American Cancer Society. Knapp Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Condolences may be left at www.knappfuneralhomes.com.

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 11:08 p.m. Friday for a structure fire in the 700 block of East Honeywell. The fire is under investigation.

Smiles continued from other side

when I came to work," said Jeanette Andre, of Stay Awhile. "He would start waving and smile at me. I waved and smiled back. He gave me a smile to start my day. I will miss (him) greatly. I need to keep smiling for Stephen."

Mr. Johnson was born August 28, 1965, a son of Bobby Lee and Lois Johnson. He is survived by three brothers, Gary, Jack and Bobby Johnson.

He enjoyed watching sports, drinking coffee and attending services with his church family at New Beginnings Church.

Visitation will be 10 a.m. until the 11 a.m. funeral Wednesday at New Beginnings Church, Hoopeston. Burial will follow in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston.

Memorials are suggested to New Beginnings Church, 204 E. Main St., Hoopeston IL 60942.

Anderson Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Condolences may be shared at www.anderson-funeral-home.com.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today, tonight. High 42, low 29. Tomorrow, partly sunny, breezy/chance of rain late. High 44, low 40.

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

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Lunch Menus

Maple/John Greer

MONDAY: Chicken patty/bun, broccoli, cucumber slices, applesauce, milk

TUESDAY: Hamburger/bun, fries, celery sticks, pineapple, milk

WEDNESDAY: Pancake & sausage, hash brown, baby carrots, mandarin orange, milk

THURSDAY: Chicken & noodles, mashed potatoes, celery sticks, pears, milk

FRIDAY: Pepperoni pizza, salad, Veggy Juice, mixed fruit, milk

Hoopeston Area Middle School

MONDAY: Chicken patty, corn, veggies, applesauce, milk

TUESDAY: Biscuit & gravy, scrambled eggs, hash brown, veggies, mandarin orange, milk

WEDNESDAY: Spaghetti, Max Stick, salad, pears, milk

THURSDAY: Mini comdog, baked beans, veggies, peaches, milk

FRIDAY: Pizza, salad, mixed fruit, milk

Hoopeston Area High School

MONDAY: Chicken patty or hot ham & cheese, corn, salad bar, applesauce, milk, juice

TUESDAY: Biscuit & gravy or calzone, scrambled eggs, hash brown, salad bar, mandarin orange, milk, juice

WEDNESDAY: Spaghetti or BBQ rib/bun, Max Stick salad bar, pears, milk, juice

THURSDAY: Mini comdog or cheeseburger, baked beans, salad bar, peaches, milk, juice

FRIDAY: Pizza or fish sandwich, salad bar, mixed fruit, milk, juice.

Paxton Area
217-841-4728



C/U Area
217 566-5005

DOGTOWN
Heating, Air & Plumbing
"Your Home's Best Friend"
Dogtownheatingandair.com

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Fast Lanes looking for weekend Breakfast waitress and cooks. May lead into other days or nights! We also need night waitresses. MUST be available for weekend shifts. Experience helpful! Stop in and get an application! No phone calls/FB messages.

Hoopeston Public Library is seeking a dependable individual to shovel and salt sidewalks this winter. Must be able and available to keep walks clear for library operating hours, 10-6, Monday-Friday, and 10-3, Saturdays. Contact Library Director Tricia Freeland, 217-283-6711.

First Christian Church has immediate opening for a secretary, Tuesday-Thursday 8 am-noon. Send a Resume to FCC, PO Box 115, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

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.

Cade's Heating and Air seeks a HVAC service/ installer tech. IL DR license required and Freon license preferred. Must have mechanical ability. HVAC experience preferred. send resume to: ramcade@frontier.com:101 E Penn St. Hoopeston, Starting pay based on experience.

Silgan Containers is hiring Press Operators. Please apply online at: <https://silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/12655>

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

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

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

HOUSES FOR RENT

Hoopeston 3 bedroom 1 bath home, all one level, laundry room, large yard. Call or text 217-495-2274