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Just the Facts *Lourdine Florek, Owner*
Monday, February 6, 2023
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

City council down votes settlement to ward off litigation

In a 5-3 vote, Hoopeston City Council voted down a requested settlement on a house damaged during a fire training exercise last year.
 The council, meeting in special session Tuesday, opted to follow the advise of its insurance provider and attorney and not settle to avoid litigation.
 Ald. Bob Porth made the motion to follow that advise. The motion was seconded by Ald. Kyle Richards. Both voted in favor, along with Kellie Ferrell, Jesse Gonzalez and Rachelle Miller.
 Voting no were aldermen Stephen Eyrich, Joe Garret and Robin Lawson.
 The approved vote came after a prior vote, in which Eyrich made a motion to approve a \$4,100 settlement. That was seconded by Garrett. They and Lawson voted in favor while the rest of the council voted it down.
 The issue stems from a fire training exercise held last June, in which local fire departments burned a house at

812 N. Market. In the process, a house at 810 N. Market, was damaged. That house is owned by Paul Kelnhofer, who alleged that Mayor Jeff Wise said he would "take care of it" but was overruled by city attorney Steven Miller.
 After Tuesday's meeting, questions to both Wise and Eyrich were referred to Miller for comment.
 In an email Wednesday, Miller said: "The City of Hoopeston has an honest difference of opinion with respect to the ever increasing amount of loss claimed by Mr. Kelnhofer. The City has paid insurance premiums to obtain coverage for claims against the City. To the extent Mr. Kelnhofer has recoverable claims, it should be the City's insurance company that either pays or defends the City against those claims."
 Kelnhofer said insurance on the purposely-burned house was willing to pay much of the cost of repairing his house and that he asked the city to pay the difference.

Thank you to the record crowd that came to the Hoopeston Area FFA auction Saturday night and gave and spent generously above what we could of ever asked. To all the businesses who donated merchandise and cash to let us have an auction with such a great amount of items to raffle. Because of the support of businesses and the bidders, we are able to give scholarships to the FFA students and to support the FFA kids in all their events and purchase their clothing and merchandise for all kids.
 A big thank you to Doug Wagoner and the Pit Stop Restaurant and Jerry's IGA for providing the food for the meal. We were able to feed the crowd because of you. Also, Just the Facts for publishing the list in the Facts. Thank you all.
 Once again, we couldn't have done it without you and all your support. This community and area is truly amazing in your support of this auction. The enthusiasm and fun that people enjoy during the auction makes it all the better and a great event for all.
 We look forward to doing it next year and put it on your calendar for January 27, 2024.
Hoopeston Area FFA Alumni

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Tuesday: Speedway Burger and Chicken or Beef & Noodles
Wednesday: Rib eye sandwich and Prime rib sandwich
Thursday: Swiss steak or Popcorn shrimp
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Saturday: Prime Rib, Rib eye steak, and Rib dinners
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Briefly

Meetings

Hoopeston City Council 7 p.m. Tuesday, city hall. Agenda items include a closed session to discuss land acquisition and several water/sewer matters, including a new truck, water meter and hydrant purchase, engineering agreements and an ordinance authorizing a \$3 million Illinois EPA loan for water system improvements. Full agenda and Zoom link at www.cityofhoopeston.com.

Hoopeston Planning Commission, 6 p.m. Wednesday, city hall. Agenda items include a building permit for 911 E. Main.. Full agenda and Zoom link at www.cityofhoopeston.com.

Sweetheart Banquet

Today is the last day for reservations for the 30th annual Senior Citizens Sweetheart Banquet. The event will begin at 1 p.m. February 10 in the high

Lunch Menus

Maple/John Greer

MONDAY: Chicken strips, baked beans, cucumber slices, applesauce, milk

TUESDAY: BBQ rib/bun, fries, baby carrots, pineapple, milk

WEDNESDAY: Cheese quesadilla, chis & salsa, salad, celery sticks, pineapple, milk

THURSDAY: Biscuit & gravy, sausage links, hash brown, baby carrots, mandarin orange, milk

FRIDAY: Pizza, salad, Veggy Juice, mixed fruit, milk

Hoopeston Area Middle School

MONDAY: Chicken wraps, salad, green beans, applesauce, milk

TUESDAY: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, veggies, pineapple, milk

WEDNESDAY: Cheese quesadilla, refried beans, chips & salsa, salad, pears, milk

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

FRIDAY: Pizza, salad, mixed fruit, milk

Hoopeston Area High School

MONDAY: Chicken wraps or ham & cheese, green beans, salad bar, applesauce, milk, juice

TUESDAY: Country fried steak or calzone, mashed potatoes, salad bar, green beans, pineapple, milk, juice

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

THURSDAY: Taco Max Snax or pork BBQ/bun, refried beans, chips & salsa, salad bar, pears, milk, juice

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

school gymnasium.

For reservations, call (217) 283-6661 with your name and number in your party by February 6.

At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include: **Mary Hartwell Catherwood Book Club**, 1:30 p.m. Monday.

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

From the Blotter

Stacy R. Espinoza, 36, of Hoopeston, was treated at Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center after an accident at 9:15 a.m. Wednesday.

Police said Espinoza, in a 2017 Chevrolet, and Ken R. Fozdar, 77, also of Hoopeston, in a 2014 Buick, collided at South Third Ave. and West Chestnut.

Police said Espinoza was cited for failure to yield when required.

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 8:14 p.m. Thursday to the 900 block of East Wyman for a call reporting the smell of natural gas. Firefighters cleared the scene without incident.

Court Dispositions

December 14

Marcus C. Coe Sr., Hoopeston, failed to appear on six cases of general nuisance, default entered; cases sent to state for further enforcement.

Johnny B. Holt, Hoopeston, failed to appear for general nuisance, default entered, case sent to state for further enforcement.

Heather L. Hughes, Hoopeston, appeared for restraint of dogs; status hearing January 11.

George Papametro, Rantoul, failed to appear for general nuisance, default entered; status hearing January 11.

January 11

Joseph D. Hart, Hoopeston, failed to appear at initial appearance for general nuisance, found guilty by default, fined \$230; status hearing February 8.

Robert A. Waters, Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing for general nuisance, default entered and abatement order with \$100 per day fines issued; status hearing February 8.

Coffee, Craft & Conversation 10 a.m.-noon Wednesdays. 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!

Kids STEAM Lab, 3:30 p.m. Thursday, for kids in grades 1-5. This week Math Puzzles.

Stickerpalooza, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11. Kids and adults are invited to stop by and collect stickers, create sticker art or bring their stickers to swap. Tables in the lower level meeting room will be full of lots of free fun. If you like collecting stickers you won't want to miss this!

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

Koffee & Konversation

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

HMA activities

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.

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

Obituaries

FOX - Carl Fox, 78, of rural Danville, died at 12:37 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, 2023, at home. Visitation will be 4-7 p.m. Wednesday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. The funeral will be at 1 a.m. Thursday at First Baptist Church, Hoopeston. Burial will follow in Gundy Cemetery in rural Bismarck, with military rites by Hoopeston American Legion Post #384. Memorials are suggested to First Baptist Church 323 E. Seminary Ave., Hoopeston IL 60942 or Hoopeston Animal Rescue Team (HART) 901 W. Main St., Hoopeston IL 60942. Condolences may be shared at www.anderson-funeral-home.com.

VINES - James K. Vines, 83, of University Park, formerly of Hoopeston, died Friday, Jan. 27, 2023. Visitation was held from 4 p.m. until the 6 p.m. service Sunday at Hack-Jensen Funeral Home in Beecher. Burial will be in Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, Bloomington. Memorials are suggested to the family. Condolences may be left at www.hackfuneralhome.com.

Weather

Partly sunny today. High 45. Tonight, cloudy, breezy. Low 41. Tomorrow, cloudy, breezy, then partly sunny. High 48, low 29.

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

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

The City of Hoopeston is accepting applications for the temporary positions of Assistant Manager and Lifeguard for the 2023 swim season for the McFerren Park Public Swimming Pool. Applications and job descriptions are available online at www.cityofhoopeston.com/employment/ and at City Hall, 301 W Main St. Please contact Kristi Hudson, 217-663-9617 or City Hall, 217-283-5833 for questions. Application deadline is Friday, February 17, 2023.

The Vermilion Housing Authority in Hoopeston is hiring a Maintenance Mechanic, starting pay \$20/hr. Applications available online at www.vermilionhousing.com.

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is hiring 2nd Shift Compounders, \$20/hour. Applications available onsite at www.full-fill.com. EOE

Silgan Containers is hiring Press Operators. Please apply online at: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13375

Silgan Containers is hiring Press Line Mechanics. Please apply online at: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13293

Silgan Containers is hiring an Electrician - Industrial/Maintenance Technician. Please apply online at: silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13392

MILFORD CROSSROADS YOUTH CENTER is seeking a DIRECTOR., Flexible Hours. Working with youth in grades 2-10. Applications available at Milford Building & Loan, Milford Village Hall or on Facebook at Milford Crossroads Youth Center. Contact Rod at (815) 471-4634. Immediate start date.

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.

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