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Tractor Supply looking at Pamida building for new store

Hoopeston officials are hopeful a Tractor Supply store will locate at the former Pamida store in Hoopeston Plaza.

At Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting, Mayor Jeff Wise handed out a sample letter to Hoopeston Plaza owners, responding to questions about Hoopeston ordinances related to businesses, such as whether outdoor merchandise displays are allowed.

"I'm pretty much on board with whatever they want," Wise said, adding that the addition will benefit the city.

Odds are in Hoopeston's favor for the new business. "I would tend towards it's a done deal...but it's not guaranteed," Wise said. However, the level of surety is "beyond 'interest,'" he added.

Wise did not mention the business' name until he concluded his remarks on the matter. "I didn't say 'Tractor Supply,' but I'll say 'Tractor Supply,'" he said, wrapping up discussion.

In other business, Ald. Bob Porth again issued cautions about the budget for next fiscal year and the need to get an early start on working on the document.

Porth said he provided aldermen with budget information for this year, including estimated expense totals for each department.

In preparing the new 2023-24 budget, Porth said that while departments can include one-time expenses - usually big-ticket items that are not recurring - few may be allowed, as the priority will be operating costs, payroll and other necessary expenses.

He encouraged committee chairs to meet with their department heads and review expenses. In looking at current department budgets, Porth said, "I don't even know what some of these are." While he wants departments to have what they need, some wants may have to go, like subscriptions to magazines or memberships in associations.

Officials have discussed the need to up the city's pay scale to get and keep good employees. To that end, he asked that committee chairs and department heads meet to put on paper what a starting salary should be for a new

hire and also the steps at which raises would be given, based on the position and skills needed for the job.

As an example, Porth said the number of city water customers dropped to 2,220. The number is used to calculate not only income for the water department, which must be financially self-sustaining, but also things like the fee to continue to have local police dispatching, he said. As the number of customers goes down, so does the amount available to help keep the service.

Porth said he'd like to be able to start the budget process sometime in mid-March.

In other action, the council approved, 5-0, resolutions with Fehr-Graham engineering and Cox law firm. Fehr-Graham is doing engineering and other work on wastewater treatment plant upgrades, while Cox is looking for grants for the work.

Attorney Steve Miller questioned what agreements would be forthcoming and how they would obligate the city.

Ald. Stephen Eyrich, water/sewer chair, said as the project goes along, costs will be brought forward, calling language in the agreements "boilerplate."

Wise added that Cox needed information for grant research that Fehr-Graham had but would not disclose without something in writing from the city.

Ald. Kellie Ferrell seconded Eyrich's motion for approval. Both voted aye, along with Porth, Rachele Miller and Kyle Richards. Ald. Joe Garrett arrived after the vote was taken and Jesse Gonzales and Robin Lawson were absent.

Eyrich also reported a water leak at Penn and Euclid, where leaks have previously occurred. "This time, I want it fixed completely and right so we don't have to do it again," he said.

In unrelated business Wise said it will be "all hands on deck" when city employees remove bleachers from Hoopeston Area High School and relocate them to McFerren Park. Street and alley and parks departments and others were scheduled to do the work Wednesday, but Wise said rain would probably delay the project.

SOUPS OF THE DAY
Sundays: Baked Potato & French Onion
Mondays: Chicken Dumpling & Tomato Florentine
Tuesdays: Broccoli Cheese & Chicken / Wild Rice
Wednesdays: Baked Potato & French Onion
Thursdays: Broccoli Cheese & Buffalo Chicken
Fridays: Baked Potato & Chicken / Sausage Gumbo
Saturdays: Broccoli Cheese & Chicken / Wild Rice



112 E. Main St. Hoopeston
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Mon.-Thurs. 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Obituaries

PENTECOST - Dolores Lynn Pentecost, 70, of Milford, passed away on Saturday, February 11, 2023 at the Iroquois Resident Home in Watska.

She was born January 22, 1953 in Watska, the daughter of Victor Richard and Betty Marie (McIntyre) Krick and they preceded her in death, in addition to one sister, Vicki Monroe and two granddaughters, Madison Horton and Braelyn Villa.

She married Dennis W. Pentecost on September 21, 1996 in Milford and he survives. Also surviving are one daughter, Dawn Villa of Needville, TX; one son, Dustin (Jessie) Pentecost of Hoopeston; four grandchildren, Ashton Ross, Hailey Rebillard, Fallyn Pentecost and Alejandro Villa; one brother, John Krick; and many nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Pentecost was a member of the Milford Christian



DONNA PENTECOST

Church. She was a Quality Control Inspector at Howard Industries in Milford and a line supervisor at Bosch in Watska. Dolores was kind hearted and enjoyed collecting bird houses and spending time with her family.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, February 25, 2023 at the Milford Christian Church with Rev. Brent Zastrow officiating.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Arrangements are by the Knapp Funeral Home in Milford. Please share a memory of Dolores at knappfuneralhomes.com.

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 4:36 p.m. Tuesday to Rt. 9 and County Road 1900 East for a report of a fire in the ditch. No injuries were reported

Sports

Basketball

Hoopeston Area played really hard to get back into the game by scoring 27 points in the fourth quarter, but fell, 75-68, to Oakwood in regional basketball action Saturday.

Senior Anthony Zamora ended with 17 points and six rebounds. Preston VanDeVeer finished with 14 points, Wyatt Eisenman 11, Owen Root 10, Kendrick Sigerill nine, and Ethan Steiner had two to round out the scoring.

Hoopeston Area ended the season with a record of 17-14 and 8-4 in the VVC.

Court Dispositions

January 11

Jose L. Torres Jr., Hoopeston, found guilty at trial for restraint of dogs by owner, fined \$180; status hearing February 8.

Alaura D. Hall, Hoopeston, appeared at status hearing for theft; status hearing February 8.

Weather

Mostly sunny, breezy today. High 56. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 20. Tomorrow, increasing clouds. High 33, low 26.

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

Briefly

At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include: **Kids STEAM Lab**, 3:30 p.m. Thursday, for kids in grades 1-5. This week's project, a chalk pastel heart art.

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

Grief Share group

Hoopeston United Methodist Church will host Grief Share meetings beginning at 3 p.m. March 19. There is no cost to participate in the 13 week sessions.

Pre-registration is requested to ensure enough workbooks for people participating. To pre-register, call 217-283-6738 Mon-Thurs., 8 a.m. to noon.

For more information, call Pastor Kathy Murphy at 217-369-7813.



Photo submitted

Elvis sighting

Elvis (also known as Doug Church, the voice of Elvis) stops by Hoopeston's new candy store, Parlor on Main St., after he performed at the Lorraine Theatre recently.

From the Blotter

Patrice A. Booker, 37, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were called at 2:13 p.m. Tuesday to Dollar General, 415 S. Dixie Hwy., for a reported theft.

She was charged with retail theft under \$300 and was released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Needed CDL drivers and general labor for spring help at United Prairie-Hoopeston. Please call Jordan Reese/Manager 217/918-2876 or office 217/888-1064

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.

Silgan Containers is hiring a Maintenance Machinist/Tool & Die Maker. Please apply online at : silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13492/0/15

Accepting applications for servers. Weekends and evenings. Applications may be picked up at Rossville Family Restaurant. 315 S. Chicago St., Rossville.

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is hiring Machine Operators, \$18/hr. Apply at www.full-fill.com. Applications available onsite. EOE

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

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

City of Hoopeston Police Department is taking applications for certified police officers/part time certification is recognized. Applications 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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