

# 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  
(217) 769-0048**

**Hours:**

**Mon.-Thurs. 6 a.m.-8 p.m.**

**Fri.-Sat. 6 a.m.-10 p.m.**

**Sunday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Email: [publish@justthefacts.net](mailto:publish@justthefacts.net)

## Just the Facts

Phone/Fax: (217) 283-9348  
Louridine Florek, Owner

**Tuesday, March 14, 2023**

*Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!*

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

[www.justthefacts.net](http://www.justthefacts.net)

### Hoopeston, economic leaders get tour of motel renovations

City and economic development leaders were invited Wednesday to see the improvements being made to the former Downtown Motel.

Owner Sabah Yokhana led the tour from the basement to the upper floor of rooms, explaining modifications as he went. In the basement, all new lines were installed, as well as a new water heating system.

When he first bought the motel, sight unseen, in 2020, Yokhana said he discovered the sewer pipe from 112 Wine & Coffee Shoppe next door had been cut. The basement was filled with sludge, which had to be pumped out and the basement cleaned.

Being a good neighbor, Yokhana approved a connection from 112 to his new line to save 112 owners Bob and Emily Brown the expense of having to have a trench dug and a separate line installed.

In another example of neighborliness, he installed a temporary restroom for workers, rather than have them using facilities at 112 or New Beginnings Church.

Moving up from the basement, the tour group entered moved to the west side of the parking lot, where Yokhana will have the motel office. Although only the skeleton of the rooms is visible, he clearly sees where everything will be when it's done, including an area for copiers, where televisions will be installed, and other amenities.

When it's finished, the motel will have suites and



**Sabah Yokhana, center, shows off work he has done in the basement of the former Downtown Motel, as Mayor Jeff Wise, left, and Tim Dudley, Vermilion Advantage president/CEO, listen.**

regular rooms, each with a combination heat/air conditioning unit. Plans also include onsite washers and dryers for guests. A security system will be installed so that only guests will have access to rooms.

None of the plans are in blueprint form, Yokhana told the group. "It's all in my head," he said. Renova-

**See MOTEL on other side**

**It's the savin' o' some green!**

**20% off Full Service Oil Change**

10W30, 5W30 or 5W20 w/coupon. Expires 3/31/23

**Hoopeston Express Lube**



Rtes. 1 & 9, Hoopeston  
(217) 283-5373

[www.quicklube4u.com](http://www.quicklube4u.com)

### Cheeseburgers for *Paradise*

From 5 p.m. - close every Tuesday, we're donating \$5 of each dine-in cheeseburger to a local church.

This week's church is

**Hoopeston United Methodist Church**

*Kids Meals not included, Limited to 1 cheeseburger/person*

*Rossville Family Restaurant*



**Mike Pemberton, Agent**  
322 East Main Street  
Hoopeston, IL 60942  
Bus: 217-283-9341  
[mike.pemberton.g8xy@statefarm.com](mailto:mike.pemberton.g8xy@statefarm.com)  
Hablamos Español

Making you our #1 priority is what's made State Farm® #1\* in auto insurance. I'm here to listen to your needs and to help life go right.  
**CALL ME TODAY.**

\*Based on written premium as reported by SNL Financial 2014.



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company  
State Farm Indemnity Company  
Bloomington, IL

State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas  
Dallas, TX

160197

## From the Blotter

Caleb A. Barber, 19, of Danville, was arrested after police were called at 4:30 a.m. Saturday to a loud noise complaint in the 700 block of South First Ave.

According to police reports, officers observed Barber being loud and alleged he walked away from them, ignoring their command to stop. At the same time, dispatch received a call that Barber had a gun in his backpack.

Barber was detained and searched and officers found the gun and illegal drugs, according to the police report.

Barber was arrested on preliminary charges of possession of a controlled substance, aggravated unlawful use of a weapon and armed violence. He was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

## Court Dispositions

### 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; new status hearing March 8.

**Joshua A. Weber,** Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing for breach of peace, default entered, case

sent to state for further enforcement.

**Iesha R. Hoskins,** Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing for trespassing, default entered, case sent to state for further enforcement.

**Cody D. Hines,** Hoopeston, failed to appear at initial appearance for trespassing, found guilty by default, fined \$230; status hearing March 8.

**James E. Miller II,** Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing for general nuisance, default entered; case sent to state for further enforcement.

**Gerardo Torres,** Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing for unlawful acts constituting disorder, default entered; case sent to state for further enforcement.

**Tracy A. Grabinski,** Hoopeston, failed to appear at initial appearance for general nuisance, found guilty by default, fined \$180 plus 30 days to abate; status hearing March 8.

**Tina I. Menzo,** Hoopeston, appeared at status hearing for general nuisance in two cases, fined \$180 in each; status hearing March 8.

## Obituaries

**SORENSEN** - Kenneth E. Sorensen, 86, of Watseka, died Friday, March 10, 2023, at Carriage Crossing Senior Living of Champaign. Visitation will be 4-6 p.m. Wednesday at Knapp Funeral Home, Watseka. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Woodworth. Burial will be in the church cemetery with graveside rites by Watseka American Legion Post 23 and Iroquois County VFW Post 7450. Memorials are suggested to the church. Condolences may be shared at [www.knappfuneralhomes.com](http://www.knappfuneralhomes.com).

## Motel continued from other side

tions are taking a while to complete but will be done properly. "I want to do it one time and be done with it," he told tour guests.

Renovations began soon after Yokhana bought the building. A new roof was put on and new windows and fire doors installed for each room.

Yokhana came to the United States from Iraq. "I'm a Chaldean, like in the bible," he said in 2020 The country was plagued by war and other issues at the time. "There was no future for my kids," he said. After the Gulf War, he moved his family to America. "I got the best future for my kids," said the father of four and grandfather of 11.

He said he wished Americans could experience other countries to better appreciate what they have here.

"They would kiss the dirt," he said.

A devout man, Yokhana said his purchase of the motel "was meant to be." He expected renovations to be expensive but, "I don't care about the money," he said. "It's more about the people."

The owner of an electrical services business in Sterling Heights, Mich., Yokhana still has no firm date when the motel will reopen. "August, September, October, he said when asked on the tour. "I'm trying to retire here."

Among tour attendees were Mayor Jeff Wise and city council members Stephen Eyrych, Kellie Ferrell, Robin Lawson and Bob Porth, Hoopeston Chamber President Valarie Hinkle and Tim Dudley and Nicole Van Hyfte of Vermilion Advantage.

## Briefly

### At the library

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

**Coffee, Craft & Conversation** 10 a.m.-noon Wednesdays. Crochet, knit, sew and other needlecraft, along with those who do other portable handcrafts invited to bring their projects!

**Adult craft** for March is a take-home kit to make a photo holder or jewelry holder. Available while supplies last.

**HPL Seed Library** is open for the season. Stop by and "check out" a few packets of seeds as you make

### Weather

Sunny today. High 39. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 21. Tomorrow, sunny. High 49, low 38.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit [justthefacts.net/weather/](http://justthefacts.net/weather/).

plans for your flower and vegetable gardens. Donations of leftover packaged seeds are still being accepted.

**Lucky Leprechaun Book Sale** going on now during regular hours. Lots of good kids, youth and adult materials. Price is by donation—take what you want, pay what you can.

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

Call us today at 855-692-7824 to get water delivered to your home or business or visit our office at 102 N 1st Ave. in Hoopeston to pick up your water!



**AQUALITY SOLUTIONS, LLC.**

## Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

Greene Galvanized Stairs is accepting applications for a full-time production position. Fabrication and/or order fulfillment experience is a plus. Send resume to PO Box 191, East Lynn IL 60932 or [jobs@greenebinsstairs.com](mailto:jobs@greenebinsstairs.com).

City of Hoopeston Parks Department is accepting applications for dependable seasonal employees. Candidates must have a valid Driver's License and the ability to operate a lawn mower and other lawn equipment. You may apply for the position at [cityofhoopeston.com/employment/](http://cityofhoopeston.com/employment/) or at the City Hall Administration Office, 301 W Main St. Questions, please call 217-283-5833.

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

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](http://silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13492/0/15)

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is hiring Machine Operators, \$18/hr. Apply at [www.full-fill.com](http://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](http://www.vermilionhousing.com).

Silgan Containers is hiring Press Operators. Please apply online

at: [silgancontainers.mua.hrdepartment.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13375](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:ramcade@frontier.com):101 E Penn St. Hoopeston, Starting pay based on experience.

### NOTICES

The City of Hoopeston Water Department is accepting sealed bids for a 2003 Chevrolet 4 Wheel Drive Pickup Truck. The truck can be viewed in the alley by the water treatment plant, 420 W Penn St., near the water tower. Bid specs are available at City Hall, 301 W Main St. Sealed bids are due at City Hall on Friday, March 31, 2023 by 10:00 AM and will be opened at 10:00 AM on Friday, March 31, 2023 at City Hall. You may contact City Hall at 217-283-5833 with any questions. The City of Hoopeston reserves the right to reject any and all bids.