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Just the Facts

Monday, June 12, 2023

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P. O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

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 Lourdine Florek, Owner

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Council rescinds motion on contract, tables ordinance changes

A motion and second to approve a contract with a grant-writing service was withdrawn for lack of complete documentation at Tuesday's Hoopeston City Council meeting.

Ald. Kellie Ferrell had hoped to get approved for an ongoing services agreement with The Grant Helpers, Champaign-based small firm of experienced grant writers for entities that need the service but don't have grant writers on staff.

A motion by Ferrell and seconded by Ald. Stephen Eyrich, to pay The Grant Writers \$75 per hour in the ongoing agreement was withdrawn before a vote because the document was not available for aldermen to review.

More information on the company was unavailable as

its website, www.grantwriters.com, led to a link owned by Thirdside, a web design company. The link address included information that The Grant Writers' web page is suspended.

Ferrell then withdrew two other agenda items, revising the food truck and shipping container ordinances approved at the May 16 meeting.

In other business, the council voted 6-0, with Ald. Joe Garrett absent, to approve a proposal for services from Gary Burgett of Urbana-based Smith-Burgett Architects to provide recommendations on the planned downtown demolition project.

Mayor Jeff Wise, who attended the meeting via Zoom,
See COUNCIL on other side

From the Blotter

Andrew Prattis, 32, of Danville, was arrested after he was stopped for a traffic violation at 3:50 a.m. Thursday at Rt. 1 and West Elm. A computer check showed he had no valid driver's license. He was charged with that offense and released on a notice to appear in Vermilion County Traffic Court.

No injuries were reported in an accident at 3:04 p.m. Thursday in the 300 block of East Main. According to police, Kelyne Morgeson, 36, of Hoopeston, reported she was eastbound on Main, in a 2010 Ford F150, when Justin Jones, 19, also of Hoopeston, backed a 2014 Chrysler 300 from a parking space, striking her truck.

Jones was ticketed for suspended registration.

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 8:49 p.m. Thursday for an activated smoke detector in the kitchen area of a residence in the 500 block of East Young. The alarm system malfunctioned due to a fire Wednesday night.

Department personnel were called at 10:07 p.m. Thursday to Heritage Health, 423 N. Dixie Hwy., for a fire alarm. It was determined to be a false alarm.

Firemen were called at 11:42 a.m. Saturday to
See FIRE on other side



Photo Submitted

Chamber award winner

Mayra Paredes, center, Project Success Spanish translator, received the Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce "Someone You Should Know" award. Also pictured are, from left, Abby Eberly, Chelsea Rutledge, Nicole Van Hyfte of Vermilion Advantage, Parades, Valarie Hinkle, Katina Oppenorth and Vanessa From. Other winners will be featured in future issues

Paxton Area 217-841-4728 C/U Area 217 566-5005

DOG TOWN
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Briefly

Meetings

Hoopeston Ambulance Committee meeting, 4 p.m. Tuesday, city hall, to review drafted ambulance contract changes. Zoom link at www.cityofhoopeston.com.

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.

At the Library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include:

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 con-

versation!

Operation Discovery, 1-2 p.m. Thursdays. Middle school/high school programs. This week, Trivia Explosion.

Find Your Voice! Share Your Talent!, 2-4 p.m. June 15, 22, 29. Open Mic in the Afternoon. 15 minute time slots are available. Call or stop by the library for details.

Summer Reading BINGO, June 5-August 15. Pick up your free bingo card at the front desk. When you bingo, bring the card in and pick a prize from our \$5 basket (one bingo per person please). Fill the entire card by August 15 and pick a prize from the \$10 basket, plus your name will be entered in a drawing for a \$25 gift card from Boxcar Books & Vinyl. Prizes include gift cards, books, coffee mugs, journals, electronic toys, games and more!

Fire continued from other side

the 300 block of Front for a small, out-of-control fire. No injuries were reported.

At 3:17 p.m. Saturday, the department was called to Centennial Manor, 426 E. Honeywell, for a washer smoking. No injuries were reported.

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

Treeclimbers Genealogy Group, 10:30 a.m. Saturday..

Sign up for June's free Adult Craft, "Decoupage Wine Bottles." The program will be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday, June 26. Advance registration is required by June 22.

Breast cancer support

Hoopeston Breast Cancer Support group meets the

Council continued from other side

said a firm was first sought to make recommendations on making sure two buildings, connected to structures planned for destruction, were not damaged. "None of us is a demolition expert," he said.

Ferrell made the motion, seconded by Ald. Michael Ferrell. In following discussion, Eyrich said the cost of Burgett's services will be \$19,500. "It's no secret what we have to spend on this," he said.

In other unanimous action, the council approved the annual Motor Fuel Tax resolution. Finance chairman, Ald. Bob Porth made the motion to approve the \$250,000 returned to Hoopeston from Illinois' motor fuel tax. Kellie Ferrell seconded his motion.

MFT matters are usually brought up by the city's street/alley department chairman, but that position became vacant when Jesse Gonzalez resigned from his Ward III seat.

During public comment, Roy Kohl, Hoopeston Emergency Management deputy director, asked the council to approve funding to fix the outdoor emergency siren at Sixth St. and East Elm, which has not worked since March 31. The repair is estimated at \$5,200, but Kohl said he can't see cost over people's safety.

He also asked whether, if officials decide to keep the sirens, an accrual fund, "for say, \$10,000," could be created to "take care of (things) in weeks instead of months."

Ald. Robin Lawson, who served as mayor pro tempore in Wise's absence, said the issue had been previously discussed, but "we kind of dropped that," she said. "We'll get it back on the front page."

Weather

Sunny today. High 73. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 6. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 81, low 57.

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

third Thursday of each month at The Pit Stop at Fast Lanes Bowling Alley. The next meeting will be June 15. Please spread the word and join us for a meeting to offer support to past and present breast cancer survivors.

For more information, call Pat Foster, (815) 984-4040 or (309) 208-9829.

Obituaries

CRAWFORD - Jackie Ray "Jack" Crawford, 70, of rural Williamsport, Ind., died at 6:13 p.m. Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at home. He will be cremated and no services held. Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston, is handling arrangements. Condolences may be shared at www.anderson-funeral-home.com.

NELSON - Joseph N. "Joe" Nelson, 86, of Watseka, formerly of Hoopeston, died Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at home. Visitation will be 4-6 p.m. Tuesday at Baier Funeral Home, Watseka. Graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to Iroquois Memorial Hospice or Watseka High School Athletic Department. Condolences may be shared at www.baierfuneralhome.com.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Truck Drivers needed. Must have clean driving record. Contact Brent @ 815-405-4000 sintruckinginc@gmail.com

The Pit Stop at Fast Lanes is looking for a breakfast cook and waitress. Hours 5:15-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. Apply in person at 719 W. Elm.

Aquality Solutions is looking for men or women to deliver its products to area businesses and residential customers. This position offers benefits and incentive bonuses. Apply in person at 102 N 1st Street in Hoopeston or call us at 855-692-7824.

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

Robinson Chiropractic is looking for you, so come join our team! We have a great staff and are looking to expand it. We are hiring strong individuals who are enthusiastic with an interest in natural healthcare. Candidates will be trained to assist with patient care. We have competitive wages, paid vacation, and a Simple IRA contribution. Full time employees receive free Chiropractic care. If interested, please send resume to trina.keller@robchiro.com.

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.



Photo Contest
June 20-Sept. 20
1 photo selected each week to compete for a \$25 monthly prize. One photographer will win a **\$100 Grand Prize!**
Amateur photographers only. Limit 1 photo/week/person. Decision of the judges is final. Submission transfers photo rights to Just the Facts. Entries must be less than 2 MB in size.
Email photos to publish@justthefacts.net and include "photo contest" in subject line, names of subjects in photo (if applicable), location and photographer's real (not screen/alias) name.