Hoopeston Express Lube

New Hours start September 25!

9 a.m.-1 p.m. / 2 p.m.-6 p.m. MONDAY

9 a.m.-1 p.m. / 2 p.m.-6 p.m. TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY Closed

THURSDAY 9 a.m.-1 p.m. / 2 p.m.-6 p.m.

9 a.m.-1 p.m. / 2 p.m.-6 p.m. FRIDAY

SATURDAY 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

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Chicken Pot Pie, Speedway Burger and Tuesday:

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Wednesday: Rib eye sandwich and Prime rib sandwich

Thursday: Swiss steak or Popcom shrimp Friday: Cod, Rib eye steak, and Rib dinners Saturday: Prime Rib, Rib Eye steak, and Rib dinners

Call (217) 283-6505 with your order and we'll have it ready to take to your favorite farmer!

Breakfast Buffet

7-10 a.m. Saturday 7 a.m. -12 p.m. Sunday Breakfast served 5:30-10 a.m. Mon.-Fri. 5:30-11 Sat. & Sun.

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Call (217) 283-6505 for information!

Email:



Friday, September 29, 2023

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

www.justthefacts.net

Lourdine Florek. Owner

Officials: 25% hike in water, sewer rates needed to stay afloat

Hoopeston officials want to raise water and sewer rates by 25 percent this year, based on a recommendation from a software program, to get the department on more solid financial footing.

At the September 19 Hoopeston City Council meeting, Ald. Stephen Eyrich, water/sewer committee chairman, and Ald. Bob Porth, finance committee chairman, discussed the recommendation by Waterworth, software that analyzes water and sewer rates, then makes recommendations on what rates should be based on expenses.

After the meeting, Eyrich explained that with the increase, the variable charge of \$4.33 per 1,000 gallons of water would increase to about \$5.42 per 1,000 gallons, with no discount for higher usage. The variable rate for sewer would go from \$3.35 per 1,000 gallons to roughly \$4.19 per 1,000 gallons. Together, the two have an increase of \$9.65 per month on the typical monthly 5,000 gallon usage, he said.

Other costs listed on the monthly utility bill will remain the same. Those costs and fees include the dispatch fee of \$13.75 per month, \$19 garbage fee, \$10 infrastructure maintenance fee, \$3 base rates of \$3 for water (meter charge) and \$1.50 for sewer connection.

The water/sewer department is looking at loss of approximately \$289,000 this fiscal year, more than the entire payroll budget for the department, Eyrich said. "As a public utility, the city must provide a certain level of services to our residents and customers," he said. "We are operating at a level now that would mean if staff was to be reduced, less work could be done and our level of service would fall below expected and sometimes mandated requirements."

The reasons for the deficit are reasons consumers also face: price increases. The price of gasoline, diesel fuel, repair parts, supplies, chemicals replacement parts and electricity costs have all increased. The age of the system's infrastructure also contributes to the problem, as repairs become more frequent.

Waterworth, approved by the council in February, costs

the city \$6,450 annually. The program recommends a 20 percent increase next year, followed by two percent increases in subsequent years.

Eyrich and Mayor Jeff Wise stressed that the city is not looking to sell the water plant but must raise rates to keep

Officials also want to tap a new source of revenue by implementing dump fees for commercial haulers. The proposed rates ate \$100 per load for sanitary waste and \$125 for loads that contain grease.

A public hearing will be held on the increases at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Hoopeston City Hall. The council will vote on the measure at its meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

In other business, the council heard from Ald. Kellie Ferrell that Thomas Electronics Recycling will be in Hoopeston from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14 in the McFerren Park Annex. All electronics will be recycled free except projection televisions and broken TVs, which will be \$30 each; tube TVs \$25 each; and flat screen TVs and tube monitors \$5 each. Cash with exact change only.

Logan Kirby Band to play for HMA senior dance at civic center

Some toe-tappin' going on for Hoopeston Multi Agency's Senior Citizen Dinner/Dance on Saturday, Oct. 14.

The event, sponsored by Bowman Estates, will be held at the McFerren Park Civic Center. Dinner will be served from 5-6 p.m., with The Logan Kirby Band playing from 6-8 p.m.

Advance tickets are \$8 for those 60 or older and \$13 for people 59 or younger and may be purchased at the Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave. Tickets at the door will be \$10 and \$15, respectively

Doors will open at 4:30 for advance ticketholders. Tickets will go on sale at the door at 4:45.

Golf carts will be available to take guests from their vehicles to the front door so no worries about walking on the rocks!

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Convenient Care

Charlotte Ann Russell 801 E. Orange, Hoopeston

will not be open Friday, September 29 or Sunday, October 1.

If patients are in need of care, they can visit our Danville location at The Riverfront.

In emergency situations, Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center Emergency Department will be available.



Obituaries

JONES - Kathleen Marie Jones, 75, a resident of Loxley, Ala, and formerly of Hoopeston, passed away September 26, 2023.

She loved to travel, go shopping, play word games, and spend time with her grandchildren.

Kathleen was preceded in death by grandchildren, Kendric Davis and Joseph Hoopingarner; great grandson, Aidan Bletscher; stepson, Christopher Sheets; sisters, Neda, Linda, and Nona; and brother, Bert Jones.



KATHLEEN JONES

Kathleen is survived by

her husband, William L. Sheets of Loxley, Ala; daughters, Gretchen (Whitman) Davis of Rantoul, and Virginia (Chad) Yaden of Hoopeston; son, Ernest (Kim) Hoopingarner of Paxton; sisters, Neeta, Karen, and Bonnie;

brothers, Jerry, Charlie, David, Duane, Jarvis, and Darrell; 17 grandchildren; 22 great grandchildren; and many other loving relatives and friends.

A celebration of Kathleen's life will be held at Grace Bible Church in Fairhope, AL, on Friday, September 29, 2023, at 4 p.m.

A second celebration of life will be held at Pontoppidan Lutheran Church in Gibson City, on Saturday, October 7, 2023, at 11 a.m., and the family will receive friends one hour prior to this service.

Wolfe-Bayview Funeral Homes, Foley, Ala., is handling arrangements. Condolences may be shared at www.wolfefuneralhomes.com.

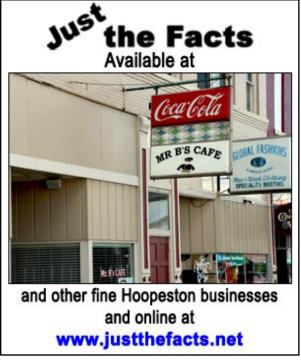
Court Dispositions

August 9

Kenneth M. Irwin, Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing for general nuisance, default entered; case sent to state for further enforcement.

Jackson T. Grooms, Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing for discharging firearms within city limits, default entered; case sent to state for further enforcement.





-Briefly -

Vote for the HA Chorus

Hoopeston Area High School Chorus is trying to win the opportunity to perform "I Want to Know What Love Is" with Foreigner during a farewell performance October 22 at State Farm Center.

To vote for the chorus, go to Help the HAHS chorus win by following the link, www.news-gazette.com/whms/foreigner-high-school-choir-contest/html, where voters will be asked to sign into Facebook to

vote. Please share with your friends and family!

People may vote once a day until October 7.

Retirement open house

An open house for retiring Postmaster Julie McCrory will be held from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday at the Hoopeston Post Office, 314 S. Market. Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome to come wish Julie well.

At the library

The public is invited to a ceremony dedicating the Hoopeston Public Library Children's Room as Mrs. Arnold's Children's Room, in honor of Carol Arnold, who served as children's librarian for 47 years.

The ceremony will be at 4 p.m. Monday at the library, 110 M. Fourth St. After the ceremony and ribbon cutting, guests are invited to visit the children's room to see recent updates and enjoy refreshments.

Kids programs kick off next week at HPL, including:

- Little @ the Library, 10:45 a.m. Tuesdays. Preschool story, craft and playtime for youngsters from birth to age 5 and their caregivers.
- Builders Club, 3:30 p.m. Thursdays, for kids of all ages! Free building, challenges, buddy builds and more!

City Chat with Mayor Jeff Wise, 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 7.

Addiction recovery group

Men's addiction recovery group meeting. 6 p.m. Sundays in Rossville. Call or text 217-304-4211 or 217-260-1361 for details.

Weather

Areas of fog, then sunny today. High 78. Tonight, clear. Low 54. Tomorrow, sunny. High 82, low 57. Sunday, sunny. High 82, low 57.

For real time Hoopeston weather, visit justthefacts.net/

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

We pride ourselves on long-term relationships with our customers and employees. An upcoming retirement provides a rare opportunity for a new member to join our team. The successful candidate believes in providing excellent customer service, is self-motivated, familiar with using computers and has the ability to learn new skills. Job is 9-5 M-F. Come join our professional team! Send resume to publish@justthefacts.net with Box G in the subject line.

City of Hoopeston is accepting applications for a part time animal control officer. Applicants must have a valid driver's license, must be comfortable handling aggressive animals, must be willing to attend required training at city's expense and must be willing to be employed on an on-call basis. Candidates will be required to enforce State, County and City codes, ordinances and laws governing animal control, animal identification, recognition of illness, habits and behaviors of various animals and the techniques and equipment used in capturing, restraining, receiving, feeding, caring for, grooming and releasing domestic and wild animals. Job functions include, but not limited to: capture domestic and wild animals; may require chasing, climbing fences and crawling under houses, etc.; inspect animal facilities to ensure animals have adequate food and water and have sanitary and appropriate living conditions; issue citations, warnings and/or legal notices. Applications available at Hoopeston City Hall, 301 W. Main or www.citvof hoopeston.com. For questions call (217) 283-5833.

East Lynn Fertilizer is looking for a full-time custom applicator. Competitive Pay. Health Insurance & Retirement Plans. Apply in person at 41284 S Main St. East Lynn, IL.

Silgan Containers is hiring for Press Line Mechanics. Please apply online at silgancontainers.mua.hr department.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/13827

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

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.

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.

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