

Paxton Area
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Full menu also available
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Climate-Controlled
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10x10 OR
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SAFE CLEAN

217-260-3869

hoopestonindoorstorage.com

Email:
publish@justthefacts.net

Just the Facts

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

Friday, January 19, 2024

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942
www.justthefacts.net

New year brings changes to Just the Facts print schedule

For those who have asked, "When are you going to write a column? You haven't written a column in forever," today is your lucky day.

Starting next week, Just the Facts will stop being a daily paper and switch to Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

I could say I'm making the change because I'm getting older. That is certainly true. I'll be another year older next month and while I still have get up and go, both the getting up and the going are a bit slower than they used to be.

I could say there are other things I want to do, and that, too, is true. I've been trying to find time for two years now to knit a sweater. That will be an undertaking for me because, generally speaking, I don't knit. Oh, I knitted a dishcloth and a shawl, but those weren't as advanced as a sweater. Eventually, I hope to try my hand at knitting socks. Someday, I might get adventurous and wander into the world of cable stitches, or I might dive in to all the other projects I've been putting off until "someday."

But the reality is that the decision is a financial one. In the last few years, costs have gone up, as they have for all businesses. The increase in the cost of legal paper alone is crazy and it's become harder to find. The cost of living and the cost of doing business keeps going up and up. The only thing that hasn't gone up the last few years is the cost of advertising in Just the Facts.


When I started Just the Facts, I wanted it to be a way for small businesses to advertise affordably. Many local businesses couldn't afford the rates charged by the chain-owned papers. In Just the Facts, the business card size ad started at \$10 in 1993 and has gone up only \$5 over the course of 30 years.

Many things have changed over the last 30 years, but two things have had an enormous impact on all businesses, but especially small ones, and especially those who depend on ad revenue to survive.

First, the economy slumped in the early 2000s. Some

The Second Cup

by LOURDINE FLOREK



businesses went out of business and many of those that remained open cut their advertising. This downturn the last two years hasn't helped.

The second change is more and more businesses started using the "free" advertising on Facebook. But what are they getting for free?

Their sales are seen by some of potential customers, but certainly not all. Facebook has throttled exposure for those free ads, so fewer people see them. Then, too, not all potential customers "like" or

See CHANGES on other side

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.

2024 Hoopeston FFA Alumni

SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION

Saturday, January 27
Silent Auction 4-6 p.m. Live Auction 6 p.m.
The Legion
502 E. Penn, Hoopeston
Food served 4:30 p.m. until gone (free will donation)
Auctioneers: Larry Baughn, Jon Mowrey, Craig Lee

BREAKFAST AT 112!

BREAKFAST SANDWICHES
BREAKFAST FLATBREAD
BISCUITS & GRAVY
MUFFINS
OATMEAL
DONUTS

(DONUTS AVAILABLE TUESDAY-SUNDAY)

112 E. Main St., Hoopeston (217) 769-0048
Hours: Monday-Thursday 6am-8pm
Fri. 6am-10pm
Sat. 6am-3 pm
Sun. 8am-2pm




From the Blotter

Hoopeston police and fire departments, along with Arrow Ambulance responded to an accident at 7:34 a.m. Wednesday at South Fourth Ave. and West Washington.

Police said James R. Whitaker IV, 17, of Hoopeston, in a 2007 Pontiac, was at fault in the crash with a 2002 Jeep driven by Tamryn J. Prince, 20, also of Hoopeston.

One person had minor injuries but refused EMS assistance, police said.

One vehicle was towed from the scene, the other was driven away.

No tickets were issued.

Robert B. Colunga, 31, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 3 p.m. Wednesday in the 500 block of North Seventh Ave. Wanted on warrants in Vermilion and Iroquois counties, he was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await arraignment.

Suzie M. Davis, 41, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 3 p.m. Wednesday in the 500 block of North Seventh Ave. Wanted on a Vermilion County no bond warrant, she was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

Obituaries

O'NEILL - George M. O'Neill, 72, of Hoopeston, died at 8:36 a.m. Friday, January 12, 2024, at home. Visitation will be 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday at Blurton Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Funeral Mass will be at 11:30 a.m. Saturday at St. Anthony Catholic Church, Hoopeston. He will be created with burial at Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Iroquois Memorial Hospice, Greatest Needs Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center or Greatest Needs Carle Foundation Hospital. Condolences may be shared at www.blurtonfuneralhomes.com.

Court Dispositions

December 13, 2023

Damian H. Bane, Hoopeston, failed to appear at status hearing, default entered; case sent to state for further enforcement.

Delia G. Carrasquillo, Hoopeston, appeared at status hearing for restraint of dogs by owner; new status hearing February 14.

Delia G. Carrasquillo, Hoopeston, appeared at status hearing for noisy animal prohibited; new status hearing February 14.

Briefly

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.

Women invited to WMD meeting

Hoopeston Area Women Making a Difference will begin the year with a meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 23 at the Hoopeston Masonic Lodge. Women interested in joining please email Hoopestonwmd@yahoo.com. Come find out how you can help the community, while having fun and meeting new friends!

Jaycees' Birthday Club

Hoopeston Jaycees are accepting registrations for the Birthday Club to area qualifying families. Parents or guardians of children aged 0-12, who have qualified for the book fee waiver through Hoopeston Area CUSD #11, are encouraged to register their children for the 2024 Birthday Club.

Participation in the program allows parents or guardi-

Changes continued from other side

"follow" you, so there are more people who won't see what you're offering, or they'll see you had a big sale after it's over.

Also, there is a small but growing number of people, including here in Hoopeston, who do not shop at businesses that advertise solely on Facebook, because they see that Facebook is not going to support your sports league, won't donate to your animal shelter, won't do the feature story on the resident that just did something awesome, or any of the myriad things hometown media does.

Eventually, neither will the hometown media because they will have gone out of business.

I've always been a big proponent of supporting Hoopeston businesses, even if they didn't do business with Just the Facts. For example, although they don't advertise anymore, I do 99.9% of my grocery shopping at IGA...er...Kirby Foods. Why? Because they employ local people and 100 percent of the 1% food sales tax they collect comes right back to Hoopeston to provide city services we expect.

Yes, their prices are often higher than larger chains, but if we lose our grocery store and have to drive to out of town, those out-of-town groceries won't be so cheap anymore. Plus, Kirby Foods has good sales and I learned during my "young and broke" period how to build a small pantry of items that allows me to then shop predominantly sale items.

ans to shop for two toys per birthday from a selection of new toys. Shopping takes place on a monthly basis.

The registration form is available at www.hoopestonjaycees.org. Registration is open until January 31.

Sweetheart banquet

Hoopeston Area High School Student Council will hold the 31st annual Senior Citizen Sweetheart Banquet at 1 p.m. Friday, February 9, in the middle school cafeteria.

Any Hoopeston area or Rossville senior citizen interested in attending is asked to call the high school at (217) 283-6661 and leave their name and how many will be in their party by February 2. The dine-in meal will include turkey roast and gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll and cake. Carry-outs will not be available. Please call with questions. We look forward to providing you with an afternoon of food, fellowship and entertainment!

P.E.P. Party

Hoopeston United Methodist Church will hold its

A community changes when it doesn't have a grocery store. Ask the residents and leaders of any town that had one but doesn't now. I don't want to see Hoopeston have to change in that way.

The same is true of local media. Again, ask communities that had it and lost it. You don't have to look very far.

Thank you to the businesses that have supported Just the Facts and continue to do so. Many of you have been with me for a long, long time. You make what I do possible and I appreciate you more than I can say. You also provide products and services that I can buy in Hoopeston. I appreciate that, too. We support each other, which is how communities survive.

Thank you, too, to the people who read Just the Facts and patronize my advertisers. Thank you for helping keep Hoopeston businesses going.

See you Monday! And remember:

SHOP - EAT - SPEND - ENJOY - THINK LOCAL FIRST!

Weather

WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY until noon today. Areas of blowing snow, blustery. High 12. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 1. Tomorrow, becoming sunny. High 12, low -1. Sunday, mostly sunny. High 21, low 17.

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

monthly People Enjoying People potluck party at 5 p.m. Monday at the church, 403 E. Main St.

Main dish, drinks and table service provided. Those who want to bring a side dish or dessert to share are welcome to do so.

There is no cost. All are welcome to come.

Sports

Girls Basketball

The Lady Cornjerkers suffered their first loss in Vermilion County Tournament action Wednesday, dropping 38-31 to Bismarck-Henning/Rossville-Alvin, advancing them to the title game.

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 7:26 p.m. Wednesday to a garage on fire in the 500 block of North Seventh Ave. Hoopeston police and Arrow Ambulance also responded.

The fire is under investigation.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Customer Account Representative

The Frederick Community Bank in Cissna Park has a position available for a **part-time** Customer Account Representative. Applicant must have skills interacting with customers, ability to handle various transactions accurately, and be part of a team environment. If you are interested, please mail your resume to The Frederick Community Bank, PO Box 36, Cissna Park, IL 60924, or pick up an application from the receptionist in Cissna Park.

Silgan Containers is hiring for Press Line Mechanics. Please apply online at silgancontainers.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/silgan/job/Mechanic_R174.

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is hiring for 2nd Production Machine Operators, \$18/hour. Apply at www.full-fill.com Applications available onsite. EOE

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.

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.