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**Just the Facts**      *Lourdine Eyrich, Owner*  
**Wednesday, April 10, 2024**  
*Hoopeston's only locally-owned news publication!*  
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942      [www.justthefacts.net](http://www.justthefacts.net)

**Vermilion Advantage seeks input to improve rural internet**

Vermilion Advantage announced it has partnered with several community and government leaders, and organizations to lead a program designed to advocate for federal funds for reliable, speedy internet throughout the Vermilion County, particularly more rural areas in unincorporated areas.

Improved broadband internet access is vital for economic development, education, public safety, and all aspects of county development. The State of Illinois has \$1 million to use for underserved areas of the state. Vermilion County is underserved and should position itself

to receive funds to enhance this service.

Vermilion Advantage has joined the Illinois Broadband Breakthrough program through the University of Illinois Extension Service, Soybean Association, Benton Institute for Broadband & Society, and others. The group meets weekly to advance the county's need for this infrastructure.

Local leaders, governments, and community organizations include the Farm Bureau, DACC, Vermilion County, the Superintendent of Vermilion County Schools, the  
**See INTERNET on other side**

**Hoopeston woman to lead Vermilion Heritage Foundation**

A Hoopeston woman has been named executive director of Vermilion Heritage Foundation (VHF).

Crystal Bivans, operations director since July 2021, has been named the executive director, according to a VHF press release.

Bivans was named interim director after the February resignation of then-executive director Jason Rome.

During her time at the theatre, Bivans has been instrumental in driving forward momentum, and since March 1, she has become even more dedicated, performing the duties of both roles.

"She has consistently been a positive resource for the theatre. The Board of Directors has complete confidence in her knowledge, abilities, and work ethic, and we believe Crystal will lead the organization into a bright fu-



**BIVANS**

**See BIVANS on other side**

**Briefly**

**At the Library**

It's **LIBRARY WEEK** at HPL. The theme of this year's event is "Ready, Set, Library!" Activities include a staff and patron spirit week.

Patrons who join in will receive a small gift. Wednesday is School Spirit Day, Thursday, Library Cat Day and Friday is REaD (wear) Red day.

**Kids STEAM Lab**, 3:30 p.m. Thursday. This week, it's Art with a Mosaic Pasta Craft.

**Sign up for April's adult craft**, Bead and Bell Wind Chimes, which will be held at 1:30 p.m. April 18.

Sign up at the main desk or call (217) 283-6711.

**HASA signups**

Hoopeston Area Softball Association will accept registration forms until Friday, April 12 for anyone that needs to turn them in. If anyone needs a registration form go to [hasasoftball@gmail.com](mailto:hasasoftball@gmail.com).

**Senior dance**

The April Senior Dinner/Dance will be held Saturday at the Hoopeston Multi Agency 206 S. First Ave. Litigo will be playing with Wayne Atkins. Doors open at 5 p.m. and the meal at 5:15. Music will be 6-8 p.m.

There is an \$8 cover charge.

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**MISS MAGGIE'S**  
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Book your stay today at [MISSMAGGIE'S.net](http://MISSMAGGIE'S.net)

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY**  
Celebrate Recovery = Sustainable recovery  
**6 p.m. Thursdays**  
**Hoopeston First Church of God**  
1004 East Orange St.      217-283-6301  
*All are welcome*  
Dinner and/or snacks served  
*Transportation available upon request*

**Pizza King of Hoopeston**  
**New Temporary Hours**  
*effective March 25*  
**Mon.: CLOSED**  
**Tues. - Thurs.: 11 a.m.-9 p.m.**  
**Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.**  
**Sun.: CLOSED**  
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# Cissna Park firemen schedule benefit for fireman's infant

A benefit is being held to help a Cissna Park infant who has spent the entirety of her four-month life in a Chicago hospital.

Hazel Walder, daughter of Kyle and Kori (Balk) Walder, was born on December 14, 2023 at 34 weeks. She was born with two genetic conditions and has been in the NICU at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital since birth.

The community - residents the town, as well as Cissna Park Fire Protection District, where Kyle Walder is a fireman/EMT - would like to show love and support to the Walder family, who have been splitting their time with Hazel in Chicago and their two young children, Roman and Evie, at home in Cissna Park.

A Firehouse Pork Chop Dinner will be held from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday at the Cissna Park Firehouse. Dine in and carry-out meals will be available.

A raffle will be held for a JD 4440 pedal tractor. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20 and are available from any Cissna Park fireman. For questions, contact Chief Doug Luecke at (815) 383-2502.

Monetary donations for the family can be dropped off at The Frederick Community Bank in Cissna Park or

Paxton.

The Walder family would like to pay it forward and help other families that are in the NICU. If you would like to help them do this, please bring a new children's book to the benefit to donate in honor of Hazel.

## Obituaries

**COLLINS** - Emeline M. (Allen) Collins, 96, of Milford, died Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at Valley High Nursing Home, Woodstock. Visitation will be 10-11 a.m. Thursday, April 18 at Sugar Creek Cemetery, near Stockland. Burial will be at 11 a.m. in the cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Sugar Creek Cemetery, 2643 E. Twp. Rd. 324, Milford, IL 60953. Knapp Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

**LUHRSEN** - Hildegard Selma (Freche) Luhrsen, 88, of Buckley, formerly of Cissna Park, died at 4:36 a.m. Sunday, February 25, 2024, at Heritage Health, Hoopeston. Visitation will be 9 a.m. until the 11 a.m. memorial service Saturday at Trinity Lutheran Church, Cissna Park. Burial will be in the church cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Alzheimer's Association, Trinity Lutheran Ladies aid or Cissna Park American Legion Auxiliary. Baier Family Funeral Services, Paxton, is handling arrangements. Condolences may be shared at [www.baierfuneralservices.com](http://www.baierfuneralservices.com).

## Internet continued from other side

Vermilion County Sheriff's Department and 911, and other volunteers.

The group will be recruiting people to help. The greatest need currently is for volunteers to help conduct a survey throughout the county. Groups and organizations looking to assist in growing a reliable broadband system in the county are asked to join the group.

County residents are asked to take an online survey at [go.illinois.edu/ConnectVermilion](http://go.illinois.edu/ConnectVermilion), and to encourage their friends and families to take it, as well. Survey results will help create a map of where the county lacks reliable, affordable internet access. The map and data derived from the survey will be used to apply for funds to build an affordable, reliable broadband system throughout Vermilion County.

Copies of the survey may also be printed, filled out and returned to: Vermilion Advantage, 15 N Walnut St., Danville, IL 61832.

Questions can be sent to: [mike@vermilionadvantage.com](mailto:mike@vermilionadvantage.com).

## From the Blotter

**Curt W. Reynolds**, 70, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were called at 2:30 p.m. Thursday to the 300 block of East Main for a report of forgery.

Reynolds was located and arrested on preliminary charges of four counts of unlawful use of a weapon, no FOID (firearm possession), no FOID (ammunition possession) and forgery.

He was processed at the police station, then taken to the Public Safety Building to await arraignment.

**Trea D. Powers**, 20, of Hoopeston, went to the police station at 7:24 a.m. Saturday about an incident and a computer search showed he was wanted on a Champaign County warrant for failure to appear. He was released on a notice to appear in Champaign County Court.

**Kelly L. Coffey**, 54, of Hoopeston, was cited after police were called at 11:35 p.m. Monday to the 600

## Bivans continued from other side

ture," the press release stated.

As a counterpart to Bivan's strong experience in operations and theatre management, VHF will be hiring a development director to join the team who is responsible for three essential areas:

- Financial Development/Fundraising
- Event Programming
- Marketing the Fischer Theatre

The development director will be responsible for the overall financial health of the Fischer Theatre which includes financial operations, fundraising, successful programming, and continued restoration of the Theatre.

The development director must be driven, self-motivated, and an excellent communicator.

Those interested in the position are asked to email Bivans at [crystal@fischertheatre.com](mailto:crystal@fischertheatre.com) for a full job description outlining preferred qualifications, job responsibilities, salary information, and instructions on how to apply.

Resumes will be accepted until April 30, 2024 or until the position is filled.

## Weather

Partly sunny, then chance of showers today. High 68. Tonight, showers likely. low 49. Tomorrow, showers, breezy. High 58, low 44.

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

## Classifieds

### HELP WANTED

Join Our Team! We're seeking a skilled Technician/Mechanic passionate about their craft. If you're a self-starter who thrives in a team environment, we'd love to hear from you. Candidates should possess their own tools and a valid driver's license. Offering a competitive pay of \$25/hr (flat rate). Interested? Visit us in person to apply at 1919 E 500 N Rd, Milford, Illinois 60953. Let's build something great together - no online inquiries, please. Apply in person to take the first step towards your new career.

Robinson Chiropractic is looking for energetic, enthusiastic, self-motivated, and a strong individual who has an interest in natural healthcare. Candidates will be trained to assist with patient care. Medical insurance experience is welcomed but not required. We have competitive wages, PTO, and a Simple IRA contribution. Full-time employees receive free Chiropractic care. If interested, please send your resume to [trina.keller@robchiro.com](mailto:trina.keller@robchiro.com).

Hubbard Trail Golf Course is hiring bartenders/waitstaff. We are looking for friendly faces to provide exceptional service to our guests in a friendly and timely manner. Also maintain and keep the bar and dining area clean. Candidates must have Food Handlers and Basset or be willing to obtain these licenses. Applications can be filled out at Hubbard Trail Golf Course, 13937 E 3680 N Rd Hoopeston IL 60942

Hubbard Trail Golf Course is hiring a Part-Time Greens Keeper. Duties include but not limited to mowing fairways and greens, trimming and edging around trees, pulling weeds, picking up sticks, and raking. Applications can be filled out at Hubbard Trail Golf Course, 13937 E 3680 N Rd Hoopeston IL

Silgan Containers is hiring for Press Line Mechanics. Please apply online at [silgancontainers.wd1.myworkday.com/en-US/silgan/job/Mechanic\\_R168](http://silgancontainers.wd1.myworkday.com/en-US/silgan/job/Mechanic_R168).

Full-Fill Industries in Henning is hiring for 2<sup>nd</sup> Production Machine Operators, \$18/hour. Apply at [www.full-fill.com](http://www.full-fill.com) Applications available onsite. EOE

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

Email [publish@justthefacts.net](mailto:publish@justthefacts.net) or call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad!

**The PIT STOP at FAST LANES**

**Monday:** Spaghetti, Taco Salad and grilled or breaded Tenderloins

**Tuesday:** Chicken Pot Pie, Speedway Burger and Chicken or Beef & Noodles

**Wednesday:** Rib eye sandwich, Prime rib sandwich or Pork chops

**Thursday:** Swiss steak or Popcorn shrimp

**Friday:** Cod, Rib eye steak, and Rib dinners  
Prime Rib, Rib Eye steak, and Rib dinners

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

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