

2025 Hoopeston FFA Alumni
SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION
 Saturday, January 25
 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)
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Just the Facts Lourdine Eyrich, Owner
Friday, January 17, 2025
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned news publication!
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Lorraine Theatre to host first movie showing February 13

It's been a long time in coming but the wait is almost over.

On Thursday, February 13, *Captain America: Brave New World* will be the first of first run movies shown at newly-upgraded Lorraine Theatre.

"It's been a long haul," said Alex Houmes, Lorraine Foundation president. "It's finally happening and we're excited about it!"

Movies will be shown Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and 2 p.m. Sundays. Audiences will have "the latest and greatest" theater experience, with BARCO Laser Projection and Dolby Atmos Sound systems, Houmes said. "It will be a premium screening experience."

The new audio and visual equipment cost \$150,000,

partly paid with a \$40,667 T-Mobile Hometown grant awarded to the theater last year.

The foundation looked into having the audio professionally installed but the quote for \$55,000 made them think again. "My dad (Eric Houmes) and I took it upon ourselves to install it," Houmes said. "If it wasn't for him and his expertise, we wouldn't be opening."

Pablo Diaz Construction was hired to help the last couple of days of installation, as well.

Installing the speakers took some muscle. The smallest speakers weighed 50-60 lbs., Houmes said. The men ended up installing 32 surround speakers, five sub woofers and three main speakers behind the screen. Houmes noted the additional speakers aren't for extra volume but to provide the 3D effect for the projector.

The plan is to solely host movies for six months, adding a Wednesday showing at some point. The Wednesday movie will not be a first-run showing, but will be like Wednesday movies at the Little Lorraine: older films with staying power. Residents will be able to suggest titles to show, or churches could request a screening of a faith-based movie. After the six-months, Houmes wants to start working in other events, creating "a movie theater with live events mixed in," such as tribute bands, plays and other entertainment.

Bingo will be back on Thursday, Jan. 23 and will move See LORRAINE on other side

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Lorraine continued from other side

to Tuesdays starting February 11.

Hoopeston residents often travel to other places to purchase their needs but in the case of movies, Hoopeston may see an influx of out-of-town patrons.

Ticket prices will be \$8 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens and \$6 for children ages 3-11 for a premium viewing experience, Houmes said, adding that a standard screen at a theater chain in Champaign charges \$16 for adults, \$14 for seniors and \$12 for kids.

Concessions will be roughly 40 percent less than their Champaign counterparts.

For the first week of *Captain America: Brave New World*, ticket sales will be online, available at lorraine-theatre.com. In-person and online sales will be available for subsequent weeks and other films, Houmes said.

Since the Lorraine Foundation took ownership of the large theatre, as well as the Little Lorraine, in 2013. Realizing the Lorraine needed work, the foundation began showing movies at the smaller venue while the grand theater received needed attention.

Along the way, the foundation board took on other buildings, including buildings adjacent to the Little Lorraine, the Willdon Building and the former city hall. In recent years, the foundation divested itself of those build-

ings and by late last year, was back to focusing on its crown jewel.

With the latest and greatest picture and sound, one might think Lorraine volunteers could take a break, but the theater that showed its first movie in 1922 is also showing its age. There is wiring work to do, the seating system and exterior doors need to be replaced and "even with a new roof, we still have water issues," Houmes said, adding the parapets will have to be capped.

Houmes is still adjusting to the fact that the Lorraine will again show movies. Asked what drives him to keep improving the showplace, "I lived behind the theater for

Obituaries

CRAWFORD - Austin Hiram Crawford, 86, of Wellington, died at 11:40 p.m. Sunday, January 12, 2025, at home. He will be cremated and a service held at a later date. Memorials are suggested to Hoopeston Masonic Star Lodge #709, 208 W. Orange St., Hoopeston IL 60942. Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston, is handling arrangements. Condolences may be shared at anderson-funeral-home.com.

MONTEZ - Armando "Mondo" Montez, 64, of Hoopeston, died at 2:59 p.m. Thursday, January 9, 2025, at home. He will be cremated and a celebration of life held at a later date. Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston, is handling arrangements. Condolences may be shared at anderson-funeral-home.com.

Weather

Partly sunny, breezy today. High 37. Tonight, rain/snow likely. Low 25. Tomorrow, decreasing clouds. High 31, low 6. Sunday, cold. High 10, low -5.

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

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HELP WANTED

Fast Lanes is seeking kitchen help. Apply in person at 719 W. Elm. No phone calls, please.

The City of Hoopeston is accepting applications for a full-time water department employee. The successful candidate must have a valid driver's license; Class B CDL with airbrake endorsement or ability to obtain one; high school diploma or equivalent; a positive attitude and willingness to learn; strong work ethic. Punctuality and attendance are important for this position. There is opportunity for advancement with the proper training and certification. Applications are available at City Hall, 301 W Main St. or www.cityofhoopeston.com/employment.

Dependable person to shovel snow as needed at Hoopeston Public Library. Must clear and apply salt to all sidewalks, entrance areas and steps before 9 a.m. daily. Must be at least 18 years old. We provide shovel and salt. Call Tricia Freeland at the library, 217-283-6711.

The City of Hoopeston is seeking applicants for Animal Control Officer. The city will hire a part-time control officer to share the duties of the position. Candidates would be responsible for enforcing State, County and City codes and ordinances governing animal control including the care and treatment, impounding, quarantine, vaccinations, and regulation of a variety of animals. Applicants must have a valid driver's license and a high school diploma or equivalent and must be comfortable with aggressive animals. Candidates will be sent to the required training necessary for the position. Applications are available at City Hall, 301 W Main St. or www.cityofhoopeston.com/employment-application/.

Hoopeston Police Dispatcher: Full-time position, swing shift. Benefit package and training will be available. Highly motivated self-starter, able to multitask, dependable, reliable, computer & office skills needed. Applications at www.cityofhoopeston.com/employment or in person at City Hall 301 W Main St., Hoopeston, IL Any questions, please call 217-283-5196 Police Department.

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-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.