

Mostaccioli Dinner
Friday, April 27 4:30-7 p.m.
First Christian Church
 502 E. Main St., Hoopeston
 Mostaccioli, garlic bread, salad, cake **\$6**
 Bake Sale Carry-outs available
 Handicapped accessible on 4th St. entrance

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Residents may stroll downtown during HPL history walk

A couple of history buffs plan to stroll through Hoopeston's history later this week. Marilyn Tyler and Tom Sweeney won't be sitting around discussing history with folks at Hoopeston Public Library. They'll actually be walking through it for "Main Street 1871-Present," a history walk of Main Street in Hoopeston's downtown area. Tyler and Sweeney and those who take the tour with them, will spend about an hour walking and talking about the history of buildings between Third and Bank streets. The history of the 100 block of Main will be covered. See WALK on other side



Heave-ho!
 Volunteers take advantage of warmer temperatures Saturday morning to take down Christmas lights at McFerren Park. Winter's snow and frigid temperatures hampered earlier efforts to remove the displays.
 Photo by James Eyrich

Hoopeston VFW
 428 W. Orange
Serving Dinners Mon.-Fri., 5-8 p.m.
 Mon.: Chili & grilled cheese \$8
 Tues.: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, roll \$8
 Wed.: Wing Night 75¢ ea.; sides (see menu)
 Thurs.: Taco Night (see menu)
 Fri.: Hamburgers Your Way with sides (see menu)

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From the Blotter

Tonya Edwards, 41, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were called at 12:05 a.m. Sunday to Bzzz Place, 306 E. Main, where a 25-year-old Hoopeston man alleged he had been battered. A computer check showed Edwards was also wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear/pretrial for driving while license suspended and an ordinance violation for owner's duties.

Edwards was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville in lieu of bond

Autumn K. Walder, 21, of Hoopeston, was arrested after police were flagged down at 2:21 p.m. Sunday in the 300 block of East McCracken for a battery that had just occurred.

She was charged with battery under city ordinance and released on a notice to appear in Hoopeston City Court.

Ambrosio Ybarra, 21, of Hoopeston, was arrested after officers were called for a stand by in the 700 block of South First Ave. After further investigation, he was charged with domestic battery and was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville to await

Briefly

Card shower

Joyce Williams has moved to Accolade Nursing Home and would enjoy hearing from friends. Well wishes may be sent to Joyce Williams, Accolade Healthcare of Paxton Senior Living, Room 130, 450 E. Fulton St., Paxton IL 60957.

At the library

Upcoming events at Hoopeston Public Library include:

Main Street 1871-Present, downtown history walk, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Thursday and 1 p.m. Saturday. Hear the stories of Hoopeston's current and past Main Street structures. The walk is free but participants must register by April 24.

Cooking the Books, Thursday, April 26. This

Fire Calls

Hoopeston Fire Department and police responded to a report of illegal burning at 9:45 a.m. Sunday in the 800 block of East Lincoln. Firemen determined the fire was supervised and under control. No action was

month, it's "Incredible Eggs." Choose a recipe from our special cookbook collection. We'll make a copy for you to take home. Bring the finished dish back to share with others from 6-7 p.m.

Tiny Tots story program, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Friday. For youngsters ages 0-4 who are accompanied by

Walk continued from other side

from the corner of Bank and Main, Sweeney said.

Current and former buildings will be treated as people during the presentation. "It's not an encyclopedic approach," Sweeney said of the walk, which will cover 12 sites. Instead, its purpose is more to "inspire and educate," he said.

Participants will learn about the architecture of the buildings that reveals the history of Hoopeston; controversies that took place in some of the structures and the irony of what some of them were and then became.

The tour will also cover disasters and fires, like the blaze that destroyed the town clock tower and the conditions that made it worse than it might have been; the people who lived in the buildings; the human factor: the dreams of Hoopestonians of days gone by; and the achievements of Hoopeston and its earlier residents.

A look at Hoopeston history is a "peek into Illinois history," said Sweeney, adding for the state's bicentennial, Hoopeston, along with Chicago and Springfield, should be celebrated during state festivities.

In an earlier time, Hoopeston drew people from across the country for various reasons. One of those was the Baxter Restaurant, which served five-star food and attracted upper levels of society, Sweeney said.

One of the highest paid jobs in Hoopeston during the era of the Baxter was the salary paid to those who cleaned the adjacent livery stables frequently so that Baxter patrons would not be disturbed by the smells wafting from the stables, he said.

The McFerren Opera House was on the primary circuit for first-run performances of the day, along with Indianapolis and Evansville, Ind., and Chicago. "People said it was one of the best in the country," Sweeney said.

Along with the good times comes bad and Hoopeston has experienced difficult times, too, like during the De-

Weather

Slight chance of showers today. High 61. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 42. Tomorrow, decreasing clouds. High 57, low 35.

an adult.

Outdoor movie family night

Learn & Lead Academy, 409 W. Washington, will hold Outdoor Family Movie Night Thursday, May 3. Movie begins at dark. Call April to reserve your child's drive-in car, (217) 504-1335.

pression, when shop owners helped townspeople out to keep the town going during one of the nation's darkest times.

Hoopeston has much to be proud of in its history and can have much to be proud of again, both historians said. "If people absorb this, they'll realize (Hoopeston's) been down before and we can get back up," Tyler said. "I don't know how that will happen but we can do it!"

It's a sentiment shared by Sweeney. "The town did it and they did it right and they can do it again," he said.

Information for the walk came from Hoopeston Public Library archives. Sweeney is thankful for those archives, as well as library Director Tricia Freeland. "Thank you to Tricia for supporting the project," Sweeney said.

Tuesday is the last day to sign up for walks, which will be held at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Thursday and 1 p.m. Saturday. Each walk is limited to 15 participants. To register, call the library, (217) 283-6711.

Classifieds

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