

Ring in the New Year!
Tunes 'N Transit
 Josh & Randy
 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Thursday
BJ's Pump
 Bar & Package Liquor Store
 1023 W. Main, Hoopeston



Email: publish@justthefacts.net Phone/Fax (217) 283-9348
Just the Facts[©]
 Thursday, December 31, 2009
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 www.justthefacts.net

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2009 is almost gone, so it's time to take a look back at the Top 10 stories that made local headlines since the year was first a wee babe.

10) The flu. First it was called swine, then H1N1, plus there was the yearly strain. The area was lucky in that no fatalities were reported from either H1N1 or seasonal flu, the latter which impacted local schools in the latter months of the year.

9) An age-old mascot got a facelift this year as Hoopeston Area School District unveiled a new Jerky.

8) Rossville citizens were hot under the collar about residential fires many believed to be drug-related. After meeting among themselves, then with village officials, a Neighborhood Watch group was formed to try to curb criminal activity.

7) Crime in the area got off to a big start early this year with two shootings in January. The first occurred January 5, when Robert Israel Smith was shot multiple times with a small caliber handgun. Reports of the shooting caused both Hoopeston Area High School and Hoopeston Regional Health Center to go on lockdown.

An investigation into the incident, conducted by Vermilion County Sheriff's Department, was put on the back burner after Smith declined to help in the investigation.

The second shooting occurred January 11 in the 700 block of East Maple. Hoopeston resident Nathan W. Irvin was arrested and later pleaded guilty to unlawful possession of a weapon by a felon/cannabis control act. He is set to be sentenced January 26, 2010.

On March 1, the East Central Illinois Task Force, Ver-
 See 2009 on other side


Just the Facts
 wishes everyone a safe, healthy
 and prosperous 2010!
 Just the Facts will not be printed
 January 1. Publication will resume
 Monday, January 4.

Welcome the New Year at the
VFW
 428 W. Orange, Hoopeston
 (217) 283-5025
**New Year's Eve
 Party & Pool
 Tournament**
 December 31-Thursday
 Bring a dish to share!
 Pool tournament starts at 7 p.m.
 \$10/person
 \$1.25 domestics
 50/50 drawings
 Free Jukebox
 No tacos this week. Back January 7!
 Drink responsibly - have a designated driver!



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**The PIT STOP at
 EAST LANES**

Monday	Taco Salad & Meatloaf
Tuesday	Chicken & Noodles
Wednesday	Ribeye Sandwich or Italian Beef
Thursday	Swiss Steak 11-1:30
Friday	Open at 4:30
Saturday	Cod & Ribeye
Sunday	Prime Rib & Ribeye served 4:30-8:30 p.m.
	Grilled Chicken Breast Dinner 11-2

New Year's Eve Special
 Prime Rib-Ribeye
 Chicken Cordon Bleu
 Reservations start at 4-8:30 p.m.
 Drawing for 2 \$25 Gift Certificates
 Must have reservations by 7 p.m.
 Wednesday to be entered!
New Year's Eve
 7-8-9 Pin Tournament
 Open to anyone! Starts at 8 p.m.-3 games
 Random drawings for
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 1 pair ladies & 1 pair men's shoes
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Second Chance Rookies
 102 N. Market, Hoopeston

Ring in
2011

Thursday, Dec. 31
DJ Don Coffey
 \$2.25 12 oz. Bud Products
 \$2.50 Imports
 \$1 Jello shots & Shooters
 \$1.50 16 oz. Drafts-Bud/Bud Lt.
 \$2 16 oz. Amber Bock &
 Shock Top Draft
Give-Aways & Prizes all night!

2009 continued from other side

million Metropolitan Group, Vermilion County Sheriff's Department and Hoopeston Police Department arrested three people after a drug raid at 512 E. Thompson. Jose Davila, 27, and Melba Sanchez, 44, both of Texas, and Juan Garcia, 27, of Mexico, were charged with cannabis tracking and unlawful possession of cannabis with the intent to deliver over 2,500 grams.

Police seized 540 pounds of what was believed to be marijuana at the home, with an estimated street value of more than \$1.8 million.

6) April's elections went smoothly for most offices, but not Hoopeston's Ward 3. There, neither Tony Hasbargen nor Susan Comstock, both of whom filed for the seat, were able to serve. Hasbargen withdrew because of a conflict with his seat on Hoopeston Public Library's board, while Comstock did not meet the residency requirement to file.

Comstock was later appointed to the seat by newly-elected Mayor Bill Crusinberry.

5) Rossville had a rip-roarin' good time in August during its sesquicentennial celebration, which included a

beard contest, parade and other activities.

4) Hoopeston officials, in an effort to save money, eliminated the position of economic developer in July. The position was paid for primarily through Tax Increment Financing funds. The city is also looking to save more money by ending its relationship with its TIF consultant and hiring a less expensive, as-needed representative.

3) Silgan Containers' announcement that the local plant would install a shearing machine, also meant the company would hire as many as six additional people. The machine allows the local plant to cut rolls of steel for can ends. The announcement was made in July and the shearer was delivered in September.

2) The Affordable Workforce Housing development was approved by the Hoopeston City Council in March, after preliminary work had been done for the project over the preceding two years. The project, which will be located on former Hoopeston Industrial Corporation ground, will include 25 single-family homes. Construction is expected to begin in 2010.

1) Hoopeston Regional Health Center was very visible in the area in 2009, from adding services, including diagnostics and Bridgeway, a senior citizens' mental health program; to inking an agreement with Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana; and a \$4.6 million remodeling plan. In addition, HRCH sponsored free kids'

Court Dispositions



December 17

Douglas Land Jr., Hoopeston, status check March 18, 2010.

Ulises Delos-Santos, Hoopeston, \$180 fine converted to 23 hours public service work; status check January 21, 2010.

Weather



Chance of snow today. High 32. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 11. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 18, low 4. Saturday, mostly sunny. High 14, low 2. Sunday, mostly sunny. High 16, low 6.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

movies throughout the summer, held a kids carnival as part of the Fourth of July celebration and donated a 20 foot artificial Giant Noble fir tree to the city for its Christmas event.

Future plans include adding gynecological services, pain management, and expanded surgeries, including the addition of an ear, nose and throat (ENT) surgeon.

Police News



No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 8 a.m. Monday at East McCracken and North Ninth St. Police said James Prather of Hoopeston, in a 2003 International dump truck owned by the City of Hoopeston, struck and damaged a utility pole.

Police are investigating an incident which occurred at 4:22 p.m. Monday at Dollar General in the 400 block of South Dixie Hwy. An unknown person or people dumped several bottles of cleaning products on the floor, then left the store.

Fire Calls



Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 1:27 p.m. Tuesday to the 300 block of West Main for a gas leak at an outside meter. Ameren employees were also called to the scene.

Classifieds

HOUSES FOR RENT

2 BR, 617 E. Wyman, Hoopeston. Stove, refrigerator furnished. \$350/mo., \$350 deposit. (815) 432-4138

HOUSES FOR SALE

102 Maple, Potomac. 1568 sq. ft., partial finished basement, attached garage on 10+ acres. Stream in back yard with woods. 20'x40' outbuilding and 12'x44' deck attached. Asking \$120,000. (217) 304-1964

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