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March 20-24

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Monday, March 13, 2017

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

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City council expands liquor licenses, fees, categories

Heftier fees, more licenses and new categories for liquor sales were approved by Hoopeston aldermen last week.

Mayor Bill Crusinberry proposed the changes, which include the following categories and fees:

Class A: allows retail sale for consumption on site and package sales. The annual license is \$1,000. The number of licenses was increased from five to no more than 10.

Class AA: For package sales only, the number of licenses was increased to 10, up from two. The fee, at \$850, was raised to \$1,000.

Class AAA: allows alcohol to be served at table, pri-

marily with food, but not at a bar or counter. The \$1,000 fee remains the same; six licenses will be available, up from three.

Class B: allows package sales of beer and wine. The fee was increased from \$550 to \$650. The number of licenses increased from two to five.

Class BB: allows beer and wine sales for on-premises consumption. The number of licenses was set at five, with a fee of \$650.

Club license: the fee was increased from \$450 to \$850. The number of club licenses is not limited.

Special event license: also unlimited in number, these licenses are for events held outside of liquor establishments and are available to current license holders or qualifying groups in the city. The fee remains unchanged, at \$100 for the first day, \$50 for the second, and \$25 per each additional day, up to seven total.

Crusinberry also requested the creation of two new categories, which are:

Class TH: created for theaters, it allows the serving of alcohol incidental to movies or live performances. The annual fee is \$100 and two licenses were approved.

Class WT: allows for wine samples to be served at 2
 See LICENSES on other side

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Speedway Burger
Wednesday: Ribeye Sandwich or Pork Chops
Thursday: Swiss Steak or Popcorn Shrimp
Friday: Cod or Ribeye Steak
Saturday: Prime Rib and Rib eyes

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Saturday, March 18

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Licenses continued from other side

oz. per sample. The fee is \$25 per event or \$100 annually for up to six events.

With more licenses, those who previously requested one are expected to apply and be licensed. Casey's General Store and Hoopeston Marathon have requested upgrades, while Hoopeston IGA has requested a license.

Some aldermen suggested an unlimited number of licenses but Crusinberry said city attorney Andrew Mudd suggested caps on the categories.

Ald. Lourdine Florek said the council would not be doing its duty by allowing unlimited licenses, saying having to revisit the issue allows tighter control on the issue. "It's easier to keep control than it is to get it back," she said.

The increased numbers will allow for growth in both package sales and on-premises consumption, Crusinberry said, showcasing the theater licenses, which he wanted to create to help the theater. He cited Save the Lorraine Foundation's efforts to bring the Lorraine back to life. "They're achieving their dream," he said.

While the licenses are available for both the Lorraine and Little Lorraine, they won't be used quickly. "The board has not voted to request one at this time," said Ald. Alex Houmes, also vice president of Save the Lorraine Foundation.

Lunch Menus

Hoopeston Area grade schools

MONDAY: Chicken nuggets, broccoli/cheese, applesauce, juice, milk

TUESDAY: Pepperoni pizza, salad, baby carrots, peaches, milk

WEDNESDAY: Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, celery sticks, pears, bread, butter, milk

THURSDAY: Taco, refried beans, chips & salsa, salad, pineapple, milk

FRIDAY: No school

Hoopeston Area High/Middle School

MONDAY: Chicken patty or ham & cheese, broccoli/cheese, salad bar, applesauce, milk, juice

TUESDAY: Country fried steak or Hot Pocket, mashed potatoes, green beans, pineapple, milk, juice

WEDNESDAY: Cook's choice

THURSDAY: Cook's choice

FRIDAY: No school

Alderman Bill Goodwine questioned the need for so many licenses, saying he was "kind of shocked" that 10 packaged liquor licenses were created. "That's one for every 500 people, he said, some of whom are children."

Ald. Chad Yaden said Hoopeston needs to be forward-thinking. When a potential business owner asks about a liquor license, "it helps the business if we can say 'yes' right away," he said.

Goodwine was not deterred, saying the increased licenses would make it more difficult for the liquor commissioner—who is the sitting mayor of the city—to turn down requests. How does the liquor commissioner say yes to Mary Jane and no to Tom Smith? It's putting ourselves or the mayor in a position to say yes" to someone who perhaps should not have a license. Ten package liquor stores in Hoopeston - that's ridiculous."

In the end, Goodwine voted "nope" and was joined in the nay category by Ald. Brandon Hamilton. Voting for were Yaden, Florek, Houmes, Carl Ankenbrand, Bill McElhaney and Ryan Anderson.

From the Blotter

A pair of female eyeglasses was found Thursday near Honeywell School the owner may identify and claim them at the police station.

Robert D. Milburn, 17, of Casey, was ticketed after an accident at 9:48 a.m. Friday at Market and Penn.

Police said as Milburn, in a 1996 Chevrolet Camaro, came through the intersection and turned west, he accelerated at a high rate of speed and started to spin his tires. He allegedly lost control of his car and fishtailed into a 1996 Honda Civic, driven by Skylar M. Reeves, of Hoopeston, who was eastbound on Penn.

Milburn was ticketed for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. No injuries were reported.

Beau J. Edwards, 36, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 8:10 a.m. Saturday in the 800 block of East Seminary. Wanted on a Vermilion County warrant, he was released on bond with a new court date.

Weather

Snow, then rain/snow today. High 36. Tonight, chance of snow. Low 22. Tomorrow, partly sunny then chance of snow. High 31, low 15.

A complete list of information on all liquor license categories is available at city hall.

In unrelated business, the council congratulated Hoopeston Area High School students Ashley Morgan, Adrienne Houmes and Maya Webber, on their senior project, "Don't dispatch the dispatch" about returning police and fire dispatch to Hoopeston. The girls attended city council meetings, conducted interviews and did research for the project, which received top honors in their class.

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Classifieds

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Hubbard Trail Country Club is seeking full time manager March thru October. Must be mature, trustworthy, pleasant personality with a positive attitude. Business management, supervisory, and bartender/restaurant skills a definite plus. Send resume and qualifications to P.O. Box 305, Hoopeston, IL 60942 or e-mail to htccgolf@yahoo.com.

The City of Hoopeston Street and Alley Department is taking applications for a Seasonal Employee. A CDL license is a plus. Applications can be picked up at City Hall.

The City of Hoopeston is accepting applications for a part time Zoning/Compliance officer. Application and job description are available at Hoopeston City Hall, 301 W. Main St., Hoopeston

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