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Just the facts®

Thursday, Nov. 21, 1996

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication!

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City, paper head to court over revolving loan meetings

A Vermilion County judge was expected on Wednesday to hear evidence in the lawsuit brought against Hoopeston city officials by the Chronicle.

The Chronicle alleges the city's revolving loan committee violated the Illinois Open Meetings Act by entering an illegal executive session.

The Open Meetings Act lists when government bodies may exclude the public from discussions at meetings. Exclusions include discussing personnel issues, pending litigation and land purchases.

The revolving loan committee is made up of Spiros, Mayor Bob Ault, Alderman Bill Goodwine, and Dennis Neal and Don Sherrill, local banking

representatives.

The committee reviews applications for the revolving loan fund, a fund established nearly five years ago. Start-up funds were provided through the Federal Community Development Block Grant Program for small cities.

Once a recommendation is reached, it is presented to the full city council for a final decision.

Attorneys for the Chronicle allege violations occurred when the loan committee entered executive

See COURT on other side

Court continued from other side

Spaghetti supper raises more than \$2,600 for medical bills

Mounds of spaghetti will help offset the medical bills facing a local family.

A spaghetti supper held Monday raised more than \$2,600 to be used toward the medical bills of Janet Eells.

Mrs. Eells, who waged a two-year fight against leukemia, died Oct. 21. Bills for treatment, including bone marrow transplants, total more than \$1 million, said Gary Warf.

Although insurance will pay some of that, other expenses, such as traveling to the hospital and motel accommodations, are not covered but must be paid.

Warf, along with his wife, Teri, and Sharon Lacy and Halit "Joe" Jusufi, owner of Joe's Place, organized the benefit, which served more than 350 people.

"We had a lot of help," Warf said "People (Mrs. Eells) bowled with, Hoopeston Jaycees, people I don't even know, helped. We had a lot of good

Annual Christmas Open House

Saturday & Sunday

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Court dispositions



Nov. 7: Kyle Miller, disobeying stop sign, illegal transportation; pleaded by mail.

Daniel Miller, East Lynn, writ hearing, to pay 4684.25, failed to appear; forfeited bond, warrant issued.

Todd Moore, Indiana, failure to yield, pleaded guilty; \$75 total.

Teresa Phelps, Manteno, speeding, pleaded guilty; \$75 total.

Jeri Pate, Rossville, warrant, failed to appear; bond applied.

Ryan Rigsby, Hoopeston, balance due on all cases,

help."

See SPAGHETTI on other side

Spaghetti continued from other side

All the money raised will go toward expenses because Jusufi donated all the food. "He wouldn't take a dime for anything," Warf said.

The idea for the benefit came around Labor Day. "We were sitting in Joe's one day talking about it and (Jusufi) said he'd like to do something," Warf

session to discuss personal financial information of loan applicants, which is not specifically listed as an exclusion.

In its response to the charges, city officials cited a conflict between the Open Meetings Act and the Small Business Development Act, which states financial information must be kept confidential.

Thursday Trivia



Co-sponsored by Burger King
Call 283-9348

between 8 and 8:30 a.m. today to win!
The winner will receive a FREE Whopper™
Value Meal from Burger King!
Meal must be redeemed Friday.

Today's question: What 1970s rock group got its name from a Charles Dickens novel?

Last winner: Joyce Kupferschmid

Last answer: Ben Franklin said nothing is certain "except death and taxes".

\$197; continued to Jan. 2, 1997.

Christopher Rutledge, Hoopeston, illegal possession; pleaded by mail.

Henry Rodgers, Hoopeston, \$709 due, forfeited bond; warrant issued.

Police News



Police reported that a flower urn owned by the city was found broken Tuesday night in the 200 block of South Market St.

said. "Joe said a spaghetti supper had been popular in other places."

Organizers hoped to have the supper in September, but scheduling conflicts interfered, so the November date was set.

The supper was the second fundraiser held to pay Mrs. Eells' medical expenses.

The first, held during the summer at the Hoopeston

A decision in the case was not available at press time. City attorney Jim Spiros said Tuesday that it could take several weeks for a verdict to be given.

In the hospital



Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
Nov. 19, 1996

Admitted: Amanda Ried, Wellington; Elizabeth Finley, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Alice Sharp, Hoopeston.

Weather



Windy and warmer today. High in the mid 40s. Tonight, fair. Low in the mid 30s. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High near 44, low near 26.

Performance

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Classifieds

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