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New police chief to be discussed at special Rossville meeting

ROSSVILLE—Following a special village board meeting this Saturday to discuss the budget, Rossville trustees will tackle another issue behind closed doors.

The board is expected to go into executive session to discuss the possibility of hiring a police chief, said Mayor Merv Smith.

After former Chief Paul DeWitt resigned earlier this month, the board approved waiting at least a month before hiring a replacement. "It's up in the air," Smith said. "We don't know who, we don't know where, we don't know when."

While that may still be the case, trustees are expected to review applications on file from former applicants, Smith said. The village is not actively taking applications for the chief's job but has on file applications from people who had applied for full time officer positions.

"I think we'll have something like a chief," Smith said. "The consensus is probably that we want somebody full time."

Saturday's executive session is expected to also include discussing wages and benefits for a new chief, Smith said.

Briefly

Woman in fair condition

An area woman was in fair condition Wednesday at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana, following an accident Tuesday night.

Amy Baldwin was listed in fair condition in the intensive care unit. Baldwin was involved in an accident at approximately 6 p.m. Tuesday on Route 9. She was taken to Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital, then airlifted to Carle.

Details of the accident were not available at press time from the Vermilion County Sheriff's Department.

Soccer coaches meeting

A Hoopeston Area Youth Soccer coaches meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday at Kankakee Federal. It is important that all coaches attend. Those who are unable to attend should call Kathy at 283-9540.

Senior Health Day

The community relations committee of Hoopeston Area Healthcare Foundation will host Senior Health

Day from 8-9 a.m. Tuesday, March 28 at the McFerrer Park Civic Center.

Physical therapist Nadine Day will present "Walking for Fun and Fitness," a lecture on stretching and walking techniques. Dr. Mary Mendus will be available for questions following the lecture.

Free Soccer Clinic

Any Hoopeston Youth Soccer players involved with the DSA are invited to a free skills clinic.

The clinic is open to players of all ages and will be held from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Friday, March 31 behind the high school, just north of the softball field. Players who have a ball are asked to bring it, labeled with their names.

The clinic will be hosted by Mike Stone of the DSA. For more information, call 283-9540.

Nurses' coffee

The monthly nurses' coffee will be held at 8 a.m. Wednesday, April 5 at the Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital cafeteria.

Perennials for the weekend

Clematis

Scaliosa

Delphinium

Bleeding Heart

Grasses

Primula

& lots of others

Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert

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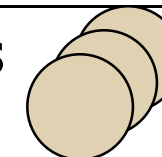
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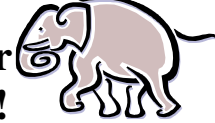


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Hoopeston man repeats history, takes home top prize in Budweiser Bowling Tournament

Chris Coon of Hoopeston has a new jacket and is a little richer.

Returning champion Coon repeated his winning ways in Sunday’s Budweiser Bowling Tournament finals at Lincoln Lanes in Danville. A total of 76 bowlers participated in the tournament, which offered a \$900 top cash prize and Budweiser championship jacked to the winner.

On the low side, Gary Oakes and Chuck Snook, ranked fifth and fourth, battled with Oakes winning 222-209. He faced Mark Catron, who held on to a 172-159 victory to move on to face number 2, Curtis Vice. Catron won again, 190-179, setting up an all-Hoopeston battle with Coon. Coon, who had a fine 821 series, squeaked by Catron 184-182.

On the high side, fifth seed Mike McMasters met Mike White with McMasters taking control early and finishing 236-141. He moved on to a hot Cliff Albea. In what would be one of the best matches of the day, both bowlers shot big games with McMasters surviving with

a 279-2554 score.

McMasters then met number 2 qualifier Randy Hiltz of Milford. McMasters bowled a fine 256-200 game, advancing to face the top seed of the high side, Hall of Fame member Rick Miller. Both showed their talent with strikes coming often. McMasters held on for a 235-226 victory and the right to meet Coon. Coon showed he was not going to be intimidated as he shot out to an early lead after an open frame by McMasters. Coon was on the top of his game and clinched his repeat 235-194.

Pla-Mor Lanes was well represented with Roy Kohl cashing in o the low side and Art Wagoner, Doug Wagoner and Tony Gress on the high side.

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Letter to the Editor

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Editor:

In regards to Iris Galloway’s March 29 letter, I had a very hard time reading this one and I guess I am tired of holding my tongue.

I would feel much more secure with the police watching the town of Rossville rather than some of my neighbors. We don’t live in the ‘50s, we live in the year 2000 and things are not like they used to be. Rossville is a major route for all sorts of people to get to Chicago—all sorts—good and bad. In the 50s, there weren’t gangs located in just about every town. There are now. Maybe not in Rossville (yet) but within 15 miles of us there are. It may be a quiet and sleepy town for the most part but I know I wouldn’t want to deal with some of the tings our police force has had to deal with and I don’t think you would, either.

As far as bringing God into the conversation, talk about the pot calling the kettle back. How about 1 Corinthians 10:12: “So if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall!.” Luckily, God is our judge and not man because God knows the heart and you do not.

Dirty politics? When was the last time you stepped foot into our business? I do not go to your restaurant because it is a den of gossip. There are times it is even open after hours for certain customers to come in for just that reason—to talk about others. As far as the comment about village employees and former police officers saying their jobs have been threatened if they came into your place of business, well, I believe that is a lie. If you have witnesses to come forward, bring them one. Name one village employee that has been threatened. If it’s true, I am sure you would have taken some sort of legal action because that is what you seem to do with most everything.

I will agree to one thing said: it is sad to see grown people act and treat others this way. I know the Mayor of Rossville better than any of you do—he is my father. He would be the first to tell you he is not perfect. He is, after all, human. But I can tell you that he is not a liar, not a cheater, not someone who steals or talks terrible to the public. I am amazed he stays as calm as he does, given who and what he has to put up with.

Matthew 5:44 says to “love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...” I can honestly say that is one of the hardest things I do, but I am praying for you.

Lois Fanelli
Rossville

In the Hospital

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Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
Mar. 28

Admitted: Thomas Scott, Thelma Reardon, Hoopes-ton.

Discharged: Thomas Scott, Alfred Stump, Edward Neathery.

Weather

☀️

Mostly sunny today. High 57. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 35. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 63, low 40.

For the current weather conditions, call the **Hoopeston Weather Line** at (217) 283-6221.

Police News

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Richard L. Smith, 32, of 111 E. Lincoln, was arrested at 2:52 p.m. Tuesday on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear for a status check. He was released on \$200 cash bond.

Police are investigating a hit-and-run accident reported at 3:15 p.m. Tuesday. An unknown vehicle hit a parked 1987 Chevrolet in the 600 block of East Orange.



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