

New Year's Eve Bash

Sunday, Dec. 31

Southern Justice 9 pm.

Food, champagne

\$8/person, \$15/couple

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FRIDAY, Dec. 22 (& ~~12/24~~, 1/19, 2/16 & 3/16)

• **HOOPESTON • BAER'S MOTEL**

• jct. Rtes. 1 & 9 • 3-4:30 pm (1-1/2 hr. only)

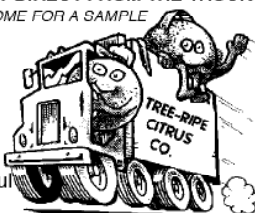
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Hoopeston's interview for new prison goes well: mayor

Hoopeston's presentation to land a new maximum security state prison fared well according to Mayor Bob Ault.

Ault and police Chief Mark Drollinger appeared before an Illinois Department of Corrections panel Wednesday morning in Springfield to pitch the city as the site of the planned \$140 million, 1,600-bed facility. A 200-bed work camp is also planned.

The meeting followed questions in an application for the prison, including information on land and utilities availability and the local economy.

"I'm very positive about (the meeting)," Ault said Thursday. "I felt it went well."

Ault's proposal would put the prison on a tract of more than 380 acres on the city's west side, currently owned by Lou Alwardt. Utilities are not currently available at the site but would be connected if Hoopeston's bid is successful, Ault said.

Another factor considered is public opinion which, Ault said, is running high in favor of the prison. "I've had calls last night and this morning," Ault said. "People have questions but they're for it."

Hoopeston's presentation was the first of six heard by the DOC panel. Four other communities have applied to

host the prison but did not make presentations. An eleventh hopeful, Princetown, removed itself from the list Wednesday.

Landing the prison would boost the local economy not only by the projected 750 employees who would work there but also by the 300 or more trades people needed to construct the facility, Ault said.

By gaining the prison, Hoopeston's economy, which has suffered because of closing canneries and downsizing among other industries. "Hoopeston is no longer a canning-based city anymore," Ault said. "We need to reach out and fill that niche and this is a place to start."

Ault was especially pleased by Hoopeston's interview because other communities' presentations included city managers, engineers and other professionals. "Comparing ourselves with others who were there, I thought we did exceptionally well," he said.

DOC officials are expected to pare the list of 10 candidates down to three or four by the first part of January, Ault said. Those who make that cut will be given the opportunity to make a second presentation. Officials expect a decision to be made within approximately two months. Actual construction of the new prison is expected to take 24 to 30 months.

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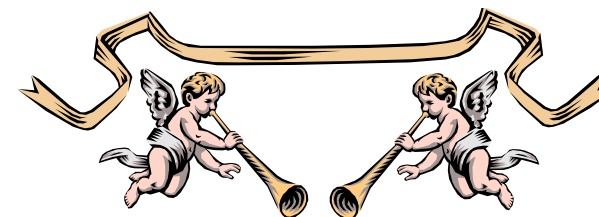
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*Wishes you the most
joyous Christmas & the
happiest New Year!*

Just the Facts will not be printed
Monday or Tuesday. Publication will
resume Wednesday.





The staff of
Neal Tire
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safe, happy Christmas
season and a prosperous
New Year.

*We will be closed Monday, Dec. 25,
Saturday, Dec. 30 for inventory
and Jan. 1 for New Year's.*

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Causes of, cures for carbon monoxide poisoning listed by consumer product safety group

Keeping your home snug as a bug in a rug may be cozy during cold winter days but could lead to problems.

Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning is prevalent during winter months. Some Hoopeston families have already experienced the effects first-hand.

Having your home inspected each year at the beginning of the heating season can help avoid deadly carbon monoxide gas from leaking into your home, according to Chairman Ann Brown of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

"CO poisoning from the use of fuel burning appliances kills at least 200 people each year and sends more than 5,000 to hospital emergency rooms for treatment," Brown said. "Consumers can avoid this tragedy by having their fuel-burning appliances inspected by a qualified technician each year, and by purchasing and installing CO detectors that meet the requirements of the Oct. 1, 1995 Underwriters Laboratories standards."

CO is a colorless, odorless gas produced by burning any fuel. The initial symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to the flu, and include dizziness, fatigue, head-

ache, nausea and irregular breathing. High level exposure to CO can cause death.

"Modern heating equipment is sophisticated and requires special training and tools for proper maintenance," Brown said. "CPSC recommends that consumers should not service their own appliances, but instead have a qualified professional perform an inspection."

A yearly inspection of your home by a professional should include a careful look at the following sources of carbon monoxide:

- Furnaces, hot water heaters and stoves that burn natural gas, heating oil, wood or other kinds of fuel are potential sources of CO.
- Chimneys, flues and vents, which should be inspected before each heating season. Creosote buildup or leakage could cause black stains on the outside of the chimney or flue. These stains can mean that pollutants are leaking into the house. Have all vents to furnaces, water heaters or boilers checked to make sure they are not loose or disconnected.
- High Temperature Plastic Venting (HTPV) pipes. High temperature plastic venting (HTPV) pipes -- which are used in mid-efficiency appliances -- may separate or crack allowing CO from the furnace to enter a home. The CPSC is currently investigating this problem. Homeowners with a gas-fired mid-efficiency furnace or boiler installed between 1987 and 1993 should have them inspected for cracking or separating.

In the Hospital



**Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital
Dec. 20**

Admitted: Thomas Scott, Hoopeston.

Discharged: Viona Masengale.

Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 10. Tonight, cloudy. Low 5. Tomorrow, chance of snow. High 15, low 2. Sunday, partly cloudy. High 15, low 0. Christmas, partly cloudy. High 19, low 5.

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

Fire Calls



The Rossville Fire Department was called at 7:54 p.m. Wednesday to a house fire three miles west of Rossville on 3550 N. Rd. The house was fully engulfed. No injuries were reported.

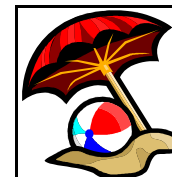
Marie Brown Appreciation Day

Friday, Dec. 22 6 p.m.-?

Hoopeston

American Legion

502 E. Penn, Hoopeston



Escape the cold with

Maui Club

Saturday, Dec. 23 9 p.m.-?

No Cover

COMPTON'S

SPORTS BAR & Grill

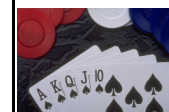
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