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Pros, cons of Sunday liquor sales aired at committee meeting

Approximately 25 people turned out for a Hoopeston committee meeting Tuesday to discuss a request for a change in the city ordinance banning Sunday liquor sales.

Aldermen Ed Lotz, John Haughee, Rod Kaag and Kevin Davis heard from two people opposing a change and 12 speaking in favor of allowing sales during some hours on Sunday.

Ron Cloud and Frank Lacey spoke against allowing the sales. "I've been in Hoopeston more than 60 years and bars have never been open on Sunday," Cloud said. "Bar owners made a living then and now they can't?" he asked, responding to comments from owners that additional hours on Sunday would allow them to improve sagging sales.

Lacey, whose brother-in-law was killed by a drunk driver, said Sunday sales would put more intoxicated drivers on city streets. Calling the issue a "slippery slope," he said "someone's going to get hurt if we open

HAMS to present Snapshots

A variety show of skits and monologs dealing with teenage life will be presented Friday and Saturday when the Hoopeston Area Middle School performs *Snapshots*.

The play, by Tamara Tudor, will be presented at 7 p.m. Friday and 2 p.m. Saturday in the high school auditorium.

Cost is \$3 for adults and \$2 for students. Children under 5 and senior citizens will be admitted free of charge.

Refreshments will be served and good will donations will be accepted. There will be a 15-minute intermission, during the 75-minute production.

Teacher Kim Burch is direction the play.

it up."

In response, bar owners and residents claimed local sales might keep people from getting hurt. "If you want the town dry, don't leave town on Sunday because there's a greater risk of getting hit by someone driving at fasters speeds," said Megan Braden of BJ's Pump.

Owners talked about people driving to Milford or Danville to purchase alcohol on Sunday but Lotz said owners of two Milford establishments reported only three or four sales to Hoopeston residents on Sundays

Braden said she and her husband, Andy, receive calls every Sunday from residents. "You don't know how many calls we get at home asking, 'can you go to the Pump and get me some beer," she said. "It happens every Sunday."

Joyce Ervin of Main Street Inn said a change would not cause crowds of people to head to taverns on Sundays. "You're not going to have a flood of people coming in," she said. "It's just going to bring that little bit in to help pay the gas and light bill."

Resident Roy Roark talked about the camaraderie of watching sporting events with friends on Sundays. "I go to church on Sunday morning but when the game starts, I want a cold beer, a big TV and my friends," he said.

Charles Miller of the VFW said he would like to see special event permits for such things as benefits, while Steve Howell of Convenience Food Mart wondered what difference there is between selling and consuming on Sundays.

Larry Stephen of Second Chance Saloon said bars are already open on Sunday, until the 1 a.m. closing time from Saturday night.

Lotz, chairman of the committee, said another meeting may be held before the group makes a recommendation to the full city council. A recommendation is not expected at the Dec. 18 meeting.

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Christmas
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Was \$5,850. **NOW JUST 4,850!!!**

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Brianna's Baby Shop Closing for Winter Sale

3 days left open to SAVE BIG before Christmas!
Sat., Dec. 15, 25% off everything 10 a.m.-noon.
Tues., Dec. 18, 30% off everything 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 22, 40% off everything 9 a.m.-noon.
Nothing held back. Sale on new gifts, candles, clothing, shoes! Shop Early for best selection!
No holds, all sales final.

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Rossville

*Ole Country Inn *Minuteman *Feedbag *Bray's General Store

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*Minuteman *Casey's

Coffee Corner

And on the Internet at www.justthefacts.tm

— Briefly

Public hearing set

The Rossville Village Board will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. Thursday at Rossville-Alvin Grade School. The meeting is being held to get citizen input on amending the zoning ordinance to allow a special use permit in an R-1 residential area to build a fire station.

Cantata to be held

The Hoopeston Community Christmas Cantata will perform at 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19 at the First Church of the Nazarene. The concert is free and open to the public.

Hoopeston lights

The Hoopeston Multi Agency will sponsor a shuttle tour of Christmas lights in Hoopeston from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Dec. 18. Shuttle seating is on a first come, first served basis. To reserve a seat, call 283-5544.

Meeting canceled

The special meeting of the Rossville-Alvin School Board scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday has been canceled.

Tiny Tots

Santa Claus will be at this week's Tiny Tots story

The next Tiny Tots will be Jan. 11.

Christmas party

The Hoopeston Multi Agency will host an area youth Christmas party on Sunday, Dec. 16. Children in kindergarten-second grade will be hosed from 1-2 p.m.; grades

p.m. Toys, refreshments and Santa will be on hand.

dren ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

program sponsored by the Hoopeston Public Library.

Children will meet at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Hoopeston

Multi Agency, 206 S. First Ave. Tiny Tots is open to chil-

Food for Fines

3-4, 2-3 p.m.; 5-6 grade, 3-:30; and middle school 3:30-4

The Hoopeston Public Library will accept food for fines on overdue library items during December. All donations will be given to the Grant Township Food Cupboard.

Each food item will count towards \$1 of the fine. This is for overdue items only. Lost items will still require full payment for replacement.

Cissna Park couple seeks missing wolf/malamute hybrid

CISSNA PARK—A Cissna Park couple is looking for a missing wolf/malamute hybrid which may be in northern Vermilion County.

"Texas Hawk" who is three quarters wolf and one quarter malamute, ran away Sunday, said owner Mary Crist.

Crist and her husband, Tom, brought the hybrid animal home Thursday. He was scared by heavy equipment, scaled an eight food privacy fence and has not been seen since.

He has, however, been heard. Residents in Claytonville heard Texas Hawk baying at the moon Tuesday morning and he may have rummaged in trash cans Tuesday in Rankin, Crist said. "We know he ate yesterday," she said. "We followed the garbage cans." Crist said the animal also was sighted at a pig farm, eating hog slop.

The animal is skittish but not aggressive. "He has no history of biting and he's had all his shots," Crist said.

Texas Hawk, who weighs 140 lbs., has a wolf head and coloring and a malamute body. He is missing half of one ear, the victim of another male hybrid in Norridge Park, Ill., Crist said. He is wearing two collars and two leashes.

Police and humane agencies in Iroquois and Vermilion counties have been notified about the animal's disappearance. The couple has spent hours combing the countryside for their pet. "We're driving around with hot dogs and bologna and cheese," she said.

At this point, the animal may have to be trapped in a barn or other structure. Because he was abused, he is wary of people although he has bonded with the Crists' daughter.

Crist's fear is that the wolf/dog will be shot by a farmer mistaking him for a big dog or that one of his leashes will become tangled and he will be unable to free himself. "We just want our baby back," she said.

The family has offered a \$200 reward for Texas Hawk. Anyone with information on his whereabouts is asked to call the Crists at (815) 457-2999.

Police News



Mavis M. Birkey, 62, of 126 E. Attica, Rossville, was arrested at 11:45 a.m. Sunday at Jerry's IGA, 1030 W. Chestnut. She was charged with theft under \$300 after police said she was seen stuffing items in her purse then leaving the store.

Birkey was released on notice to appear.

A 61-year-old Hoopeston man reported Tuesday that someone damaged the walk-in door of his garage. The damage occurred in the 300 block of North Eighth Ave.

The front door of Second Chance Saloon, 102 N. Market, was forced open between 12:30 a.m. and 7:20 a.m. Wednesday.

Weather



Cloudy, chance of light rain today. High 38. Tonight, cloudy. Low 25. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High 42, low 30.

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

9 Pin No Tap Sat. Dec. 15

8 p.m. sign-in, 8:30 p.m. start \$15/person Bowl 3 games plus handicap Prize money (1 in 4 couples)

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Classifieds

ADULT CARE

Will do private care for elderly. References available. Call (217) 283-5399.

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12 gauge Mossburg shotgun. Extra slug barrel, case, shells, cleaning kit. \$240. (217) 283-7390. Leave message.

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