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Just the Facts®

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942

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Cataract surgery can be a scary thing for patients but a volunteer at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital makes the experience better.

Betty Walters, who volunteers at the hospital on days when cataract surgery is performed, was named Volunteer of the Year Tuesday at Healthcare Highlights, the hospital's annual public forum.

"We could not provide the level of care we do without our volunteers," said CEO Frank Caruso. Of Walters, "she always has a smile on her face," he said. "She brightens the day of every patient who has cataract surgery."

Chief surgery nurse Marilyn Reeves agreed. "She has definitely made cataract day wonderful for the patient," she said of Walters. As a volunteer, Walters gets food and coffee for patients and families and provides other services "but most of all, she just cracks them up," Reeves said.

Several employees were honored with service awards. Those receiving five-year awards were Deb Chandler, Eva Cordova, Diane Rankin, Ida Fink, Minda Lister and Dr. Mary Mendus.

Ten-year recipients included Sandra McNeely, Kathleen Warren, Robert Bane and Misti Runge.

Two employees were honored in each of the 20- and 25-year categories. Carole Bond and Alice Busch each was recognized for 20 years' service and Dennis Birkey and Zelda Page were honored for serving the hospital for 25 years.

In addition, Just the Facts owner Lourdine Florek was recognized for her "caring commitment and continuous support" of the hospital's efforts.

Caruso listed the health center's list of accomplishments over the past year, including the hospital's design-

See FORUM on other side

Forum continued from other side

nation as a crucial access facility and upgrading the ambulance service to Advanced Life Support status. "Our ambulance crew is irreplaceable," he said, calling them "the jewel in our crown of accomplishments this year."

Caruso also recognized new employees, including Dr. Travis Crawford, marketing director Charlene Drawdy and financial officer Terry Paligo.

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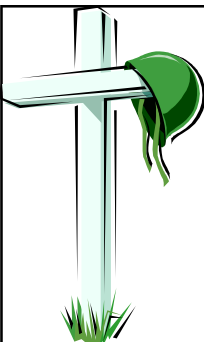
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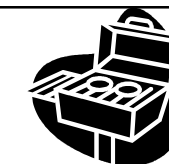
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**Just the Facts
will be closed
Monday, May 27 in
observance of
Memorial Day.
Publication will
resume Tuesday**

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Police News



Weather



Flood watch through early Friday. Showers, thunderstorms today. High 72. Tonight, showers. Low 50. Tomorrow, morning showers. High 58, low 45

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

Classifieds

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