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Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Community gathers to say farewell to school superintendent

Hoopeston turned out en masse Wednesday to say goodbye to a long-time educator, principal and superintendent.

Students, teachers and staff, board members, community leaders and representatives of area education groups gathered in the Hoopeston Area Middle School Gym to pay tribute to Mark Conolly, who died Saturday.

"It's going to be a hard time for me not having him around, that's for sure," said Matthew (Mac) Conolly, Mr. Conolly's youngest son.

Mac, a seventh grader, said he wished he could play a game with his father. He said he realized that "people who loved my dad also love us." He urged mourners to

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710 W. Honeywell, Hoopeston

"have a very nice Christmas and I hope you will never forget about my dad."

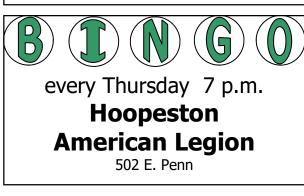
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The Rev. James Batchelor, who conducted the funeral service, told of his reaction to hearing about Mr. Conolly's death. "As I hung up the phone last Saturday, I wanted to disbelieve my ears," he said. More telephone calls from church members told him it was not just a rumor. He encouraged mourners to have faith. "Our sorrow is that of those who must say goodbye for a long time...but not forever."

Mr. Conolly served as superintendent for nine years and was a former history teacher and high school principal.

Holiday Tourney Dec. 23 9 Pin No Tap Singles Check in 7 p.m., bowl 8 p.m. \$15/person Dance to Tunes-N-Transit 9-1 All Bud products \$1.50 Merry Christmas from Ω_{00} Pla-Mor Lanes 719 W. Elm, Hoopeston



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'Twas the weekend before **Christmas** at BJ's Pump Bar & Package Liquor Store

Friday 9-1 No cover Larry "Doc" Baughn DJ Steak Frv 12 & 16 oz. Rib eyes, grilled chicken Saturday 9-1 No cover Michael Ingram & Kayla Brown

> Sunday Free jukebox, free pool \$1.25 beer

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Every Wednesday at Taco Night Karaoke with Larry "Doc" Baughn 1023 W. Main, Hoopeston (217) 283-5700



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for that special someone and they're on sale through December 24th. Call 283-4012 to order your holiday gift certificates.

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Council members take exception with bonuses, vacation

Two Hoopeston City Council members wondered who had the authority to allow Christmas bonuses for employees and why police dispatchers were paid for working and vacation time.

Alderpersons Jerry Yonkers and Gail Lane raised the questions at Tuesday night's council meeting.

Yonkers said when he asked about getting handicapped-accessible doors for city hall, he was told to wait until the next budget but employees received \$4,800 in Chamber Bucks. "Why couldn't it be used to fix this door or something more useful," he asked.

Lane wanted to know when money for bonuses was approved. "When we did the budget, I don't remember

Police News

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday at 514 W. Washington.

Police said Jessica Huckleby of Hoopeston, in a 1987 Dodge truck, backed from a driveway into a parked 1999 Chevrolet utility vehicle owned by Penny Wilken of Milford.

Come Party at Pla-Mor Lanes with Tunes-N-Transit Randy Wallace/Josh Miller Friday, Dec. 22 9-1 "They Play What You Want to Hear" 719 W. Elm, Hoopeston

Fish Fry 5-8 p.m. Friday **American Legion** 502 E. Penn, Hopeston Also serving ribs Homemade onion rings available **Carry-outs available 283-6312** the bonuses," she said.

Alderman Bill Goodwine said each employee received \$50 in Chamber Bucks and that bonuses are in a budget line item.

The bulk of the bonuses came from the water department budget, said Alderman Bill Crusinberry, who authorized the expense. The money was given to employees for their extra work in dealing with the Hoopeston Foods lawsuit and the willingness of employees to work with fewer people, saving the city about \$50,000, he said

Reading a draft of a proposed employee handbook, Yonkers then asked why dispatchers worked and were paid for unused vacation. One dispatcher was ill part of the year: others to have to work and not use vacation.

Deputy faces DUI, speeding

A Hoopeston man was arrested in the early morning hours of December 14 charged with speeding and driving under the influence.

Rvan J. Goodner, 28, was arrested by an Illinois State trooper on Rt. 1 near Rossville, said Vermilion County Sheriff Pat Hartshorn.

Goodner, a Vermilion County Sheriff's deputy, was in his personal car and was off-duty at the time, he said.

Goodner did not exhibit erratic driving and did not take a Breathalyzer test, he added.

Under Illinois law, failure to take the test results in six months' suspension of driving privileges.

He was also allegedly driving 21-25 miles over the posted 55 mph speed limit.

Goodner's arrest is a two-fold issue. The case will go through the legal system as any other arrest but also, Goodner will be faced with consequences of breaking department regulations, Hartshorn said, who said Tuesday that he is unsure what actions he will take in the matter.

Weather

Chance of rain today, tonight and tomorrow. High today 48, low 47. Tomorrow, high 47, low 33.

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For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service (217) 283-6221.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from Open Christmas & New Year's Day Buffet \$6.95 for adults, \$5.25 for senior citizens. free for kids 4 and under! 113 E. Main, Hoopeston (217) 283-5888



Classifieds

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