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**427 E. Main St.
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Hoopeston officer goes from citing speeders to Fast Lanes

For more than 20 years, one of Doug Wagoner's jobs as a Hoopeston police officer has been to ticket speeders.

Now, he'll experience life at Fast Lanes.

Wagoner is retiring from police work and is the new owner of Hoopeston's bowling alley.

Formerly Pla-Mor Lanes, Wagoner is renaming the bowling alley "Fast Lanes."

The name was suggested by Sydney Wilson, daughter of local racecar driver Jammie Wilson and his wife, Lori. With it, Wagoner combines two of his interests, racing and bowling.

Local bowlers have been without a place to play and practice since JoAnn Gress closed Pla-Mor Lanes in June, turning it over to Community Bank.

For several weeks, Wagoner and the bank negotiated, coming to an agreement on July 17. Since then, Wagoner has been at the bowling alley after his shift and on his days off, cleaning and planning.

The double duty ended Tuesday, when Wagoner marked his last day as a police officer. The event was marked with a luncheon, attended by family, friends, co-workers and several retired Hoopeston police officers.

Having only one job now will allow Wagoner to concentrate on Fast Lanes. He plans to open it around August 21, after he attends the Michigan NASCAR contest, calling the race "my last hurrah."

When Fast Lanes opens, patrons will notice some changes. Planned renovations include installing a 7 foot window between the bar and bowling area and



WAGONER

replacing carpeting at the entrance to the bowling alley with black and white checkered tile. One wall in the bowling area will be christened The Winner's Circle and will feature highlights and photos of local bowlers.

All 10 lanes will be sanded and refinished and the machinery that runs them will be revamped.

Wagoner said the bowling alley restaurant will reopen. To be called "The Pit Stop," it will be managed by Brenda Crusinberry. Lunch and dinner specials will be available, as well as burgers and other menu items and Wagoner hopes to add a Saturday and Sunday breakfast buffet in the future.

Wagoner also hopes to attract more leagues to Fast Lanes, including a Wednesday night league and a second shift Friday night mixed league. "The demand of the people will bring the leagues up," he said.

He also plans to start a Tuesday night church league. "If every church in the area would bring one team, it would fill 10 lanes," Wagoner said.

He plans to continue special events, such as Rock & Bowl and 9 Pin No Tap contests and will also bring in bands, mixing country, '50s and '60s and rock.

Wagoner has spent many hours getting Fast Lanes but he's had lots of help from family and friends. One day last week, his mother, Alice, was busy cleaning the kitchen. His daughter, Susie, and husband, Doug Goble, have helped, bringing their children who bowl while the adults work.

See LANES on other side

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Petition packets available for February general primary

DANVILLE—Petition packets for candidates who wish to run in the February 5, 2008 general primary election are available at Vermilion County Clerk Lynn's Foster's office. Packets may be picked up from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

The first day petitions may be circulated is Tuesday, Aug. 7. Petitions must be filed with the Vermilion County Clerk starting at 8 a.m. Monday, Oct. 29 through 4:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 5.

Local offices to be nominated in the February 5 primary election include circuit clerk, recorder, state's attorney, auditor, coroner and county board members. Precinct committee persons and members of the Democratic State Central Committee will be elected at this time.

Federal, state and judicial offices will also be on the ballot. Candidate(s) who receive the highest vote totals of each political party for each office in this election will be placed on the Nov. 4, 2008 general election ballot.

Briefly

Housing survey
 Residents are reminded that volunteers will pick up completed housing surveys from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday. Residents are asked to tape the survey to their front door.

Girls Softball party
 A Girls Softball "End of Year" pool party will be held from 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Aug 4, at the Hoopeston Swimming Pool. Admission: turn in your softball pants (if you received them). Awards, food, and beverages provided.
 Congratulations on a great season!


Obituaries

HIXSON - Maxine A. Hixson, 93, of Clifton died at 10:56 a.m. Tuesday, July 31, 2007 at Merkle-Knipprath Nursing Home, Clifton. Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery, Milford. Visitation will be noon-1 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to American Cancer Society.

Lanes continued from other side

Tim and Darlene Coon are among the friends who have helped, as is Linda Meeker, who was busy cleaning walls on a day off from Community Bank. "It's amazing what you'll do for friendship," she said, laughing.

Fast Lanes will be open seven days a week. Hours of operation have not yet been set.

Weather 

Mostly sunny today. High 91. Tonight, mostly clear. Low 69. Tomorrow, partly cloudy. High 92, low 69.

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

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HOUSES FOR SALE
 3 BR house. \$59,000. Will consider contract with \$2,000 down. Call (217) 474-3862 to see.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE
 Gray sectional sofa. Bed on 1 end, recliner on the other. \$400. (217) 283-7845

RUMMAGE SALES
 419 W. Washington, Hoopeston. Sat., 7-? NASCAR diecast collection, hot tub, dresser, chest, night stand, antique oak china cabinet, roll top desk, lamps, wagons, oak chairs, yard swing. See large items early. (217) 283-5646
 540 E. Main St., Wellington. Sat., 7-1. Huge 2 family sale. Brand name baby girls & boys 0-4T, lots of baby items, 10" Craftsman table saw, gas smoker, clutch for Dodge truck, plus size women's clothes, furniture, misc. household items
 608 S. Fifth St., Hoopeston. Fri & Sat, 7-? Multi-family sale. Furniture, children-Jr. size, men's, women's clothes, lots of toys & misc.
 214 E. Lincoln, Hoopeston. Fri & Sat, 7:30-12:30. Lots of misc.
 522 N. Ninth Ave., Hoopeston. Sat., 7-4. Large dog kennel, Tree Lounge tree stand, climbing stands, furniture, curtains, throw rugs, boys & girls clothing 4T-10.
 1013 W. Main, Hoopeston (in alley). Sat. 7-noon. Adult/kids clothes, toys, household misc. & much more. Rain or shine!

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