

Tuesday is Senior Citizens Day

\$2 OFF



Quicklube Plus

- Lube, oil & Filter
- Top off Fluids
- 10-pt. maintenance check

Call 283-6688

HOOPESTON

*Not valid with other offers

Lourdine Florek
owner/publisher

Just the Facts

Phone/Fax:
(217) 283-9348

Email:

publish@justthefacts.net

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 6094? ? ? www.justthefacts.net

Letters to the Editor

I have been reading the letters to the editor regarding Doctors Kuha and Timmons with fascination. It is apparent to the pedestrian observer that both common sense and facts are conspicuously missing in this debate.

It seems that in public circles, very little is known about the facts of Dr. Kuha's dismissal. This is as it should be; the contents of Dr. Kuha's personnel file are private.

See **LETTER** on other side

**It's not too early
to sign up for our
Snow Removal Service**

T&L Lawncare
(217) 283-7214



just the facts

is available in:

Hoopeston

*Henning? *Schuler's

*Coffee Cu? *L&? *McDonald's

*Hoopeston Coin Laundr? *Olympic Hardware

*Jerry's IG? *Pamida Pharmacy

*Hoopeston Convenience *CV?

*Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital

*Pizza Kin? *Price-Less Foods

*Fast Lanes *Hoopeston Public Library

*Hoopeston Express Lub? *Downtown Motel

*BJ's Pump

Rossville

*Merita's *Bray's *Casey's

Wellington

Coffee Corner

and on the Internet at www.justthefacts.net



Saying goodbye

City employees gathered Friday to say goodbye to Danny Justice (center), who has been a seasonal employee at Floral Hill for the past three years. Justice will leave for Iraq in early January, leaving behind his wife, Mary Beth, and five children. Also pictured are Alderman Chuck Davis (facing away from camera) Steve Rhodes, cemetery sexton, Steve Baker, water department supervisor and Tom Bookwalter, police dispatcher.

\$4 OFF

Every Tuesday is

LADIES & SENIOR CITIZENS DAY

Take \$4 off our already low price!

Quality Service You Can Trust!

Hoopeston Express Lube

Hoopeston Plaza Rtes. 1 & 9

(217) 283-5373

www.quicklube4u.com

INJURED AT WORK?

Call us!

We're a Chicago-based
Law firm but we come to Danville
every month.

**Worker's Compensation
Personal Injury**

**David C. Harrison
Scheele, Cornelius &
Harrison**

1-800-572-9806

Call for a FREE consultation.
No fee unless we win your case.

**LET US PROTECT
YOUR RIGHTS!**

Letter continued from other side

However, it is the contents of that personnel file that most probably hold the key to the "mystery" behind Dr. Timmons's choice to remove Dr. Kuha from the ER staff at Hoopeston Hospital.

It has been mentioned in some letters to the editor that Dr. Kuha is a "wonderful doctor." This point is not up for debate. Liberally apply common sense to the notion of the practice of emergency medicine. Emergency medicine certainly requires a skill set and a way of thinking that is unique among medical specialties. For example, a doctor may be a wonderful gynecologist but would not be equipped for the specific demands of emergency practice. Has anyone considered that perhaps Dr. Kuha's skill set and abilities would better be applied outside of the emergency department? "Wonderful doctor" is not necessarily synonymous with "wonderful emergency physician."

Dr. Kuha's support in the community is certainly touching. Obviously, he is a kind, compassionate, warm individual who has brought a much-needed human element to the art of healing people. However, a cult of personality has clearly developed here. What is the number one concern of the community of Hoopeston as pertains to the hospital; similarly, what is Dr. Timmons's number one concern? The answer in both cases should be top-notch medical care. Does Hoopeston deserve any less than the best care possible? Dr. Kuha's kindness may not necessarily translate to Dr. Kuha's provision of consistently excellent care.

Consider this scenario? If you went to the same primary

Police News



No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 7:15 p.m. Sunday in the 700 block of East Main.

Police said Rachael Martin of Hoopeston, in a 2003 Chevrolet Trailblazer, backed from a driveway into a parked 1988 Ford truck owned by Rodney Drollinger.

Heather N. Foster, 17, of 602 W. Washington, was arrested after an incident at 8:10 p.m. Sunday in the 600 block of West Washington.

She was charged with domestic battery on a complaint from a 38-year-old Hoopeston woman who alleged Foster threw a book at her sister, hitting the girl in the eye.

Foster was taken to the Public Safety Building, Danville.

care physician for many years, and you had a good rapport with him, but you suddenly discovered that you were not receiving care from a physician who was up-to-date on the latest techniques, research, pharmaceuticals, etc., and who was developing a reputation of negligence and error, what would you do? Would you discuss your concerns with the doctor? Would you switch physicians? Or would you elect to use wishful thinking and hope you never needed the higher level of care from this doctor? Though I offer this by analogy only, and I do not know the specifics of Dr. Kuha's performance at the Hoopeston ER, I submit to your readers that a deeper level of consideration is necessary here.

The point is, does Hoopeston deserve the highest performing doctors, or the nicest doctors? Next, can anyone in Hoopeston or the surrounding communities be sure that Dr. Kuha's performance record is squeaky-clean? I would imagine that only Dr. Timmons and the Board of Directors at the hospital are fully aware of the facts behind this case. What if there are performance-related issues here? In that case, it speaks volumes about Dr. Timmons's group and the hospital's Board of Directors that Dr. Kuha has not been embarrassed publicly with the exposure of any of the facts behind his dismissal. On this note, I have noticed that several writers have asked for Dr. Timmons to provide the public an explanation of his decision regarding Dr. Kuha. I wonder whether Dr. Kuha would want that to happen.

When I first moved to Rossville eight years ago, I was warned against using the Hoopeston ER for any reason

whatsoever. Now, since Dr. Timmons has been managing the emergency room in Hoopeston, my family makes regular use of the facility. The reputation of the hospital has certainly improved, and I have been pleased with the care my family has received by doctors I have seen there, including Drs. "Kaz," Desai, and Timmons. The professionalism, quality, and speed of these men's work is commendable. I have certainly been impressed. Does Hoopeston deserve any less? Given the accomplishments of Dr. Timmons, my guess is that he thinks, too, that Hoopeston deserves the best care, and he is willing to do whatever it takes to bring our community the very best emergency care providers.

One final note? Emotions kill professionalism. I have noticed that the letters to the editor have been laced with emotionally charged reactions to the seemingly unfair treatment of a beloved pillar of the community. We want professionalism in the Hoopeston ER, do we not? So, I implore your readers to consider all possible sides of the story. I know no more of the details of this case than anyone else, and I certainly do not assume the worst of Dr. Kuha. Neither, though, should we assume the worst of Dr. Timmons, whose performance in Hoopeston has been excellent. Dr. Timmons is a commensurate professional who at the very least deserves the benefit of the doubt.

My comments come from a position as devil's advocate, of course. I don't have all the facts; neither do any of the readers of this daily. Without these facts, none of us can adequately decide on our own whether Dr.

day and 10:30 a.m. Friday at Hoopeston Public Library's children's room. Tiny Tots is open to children ages 1-4 who are accompanied by an adult.

Meetings

Hoopeston City Council, 7 p.m. Tuesday, City Hall.

Weather



Cloudy today. High 38. Tonight, chance of snow. Low 27. Tomorrow, chance of snow. High 33, low 19.

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

Kuha's dismissal was appropriate and necessary. Luckily, it is not the job of any of us. In my experience, people who lose their jobs are those whose performance has been lacking. I am willing to consider that it works that way in the Hoopeston ER, too. I therefore submit that Dr. Timmons's public indictment is inappropriate.

Kari Matthews
Rossville

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

One bedroom upstairs apartment available. Utilities furnished. Call (217) 283-7028

UPSTAIRS APARTMENT- Spacious, 2-3 bedroom, 1 bath, major kitchen appliances; private entrances, washer/dryer available, includes water/garbage; service animals only, no smoking; \$375 per month. For application call 217-283-6463.

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Express Lube has opening for full time lube technician. Will train. Drug screen required. Apply in person.

Local financial services industry seeks administrative assistant. Position available immediately. Part time, may become full time. Successful candidate will be able to deal with the public, maintain confidentiality and have excellent organizational skills. Common sense a plus. Send resume to Box D, Just the Facts, P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942

HOUSES FOR RENT

Two bedroom house for rent in Hoopeston. Great Neighborhood! No Pets. \$425 per month, Deposit and References Required. Call 217-304-6547 for Application.

HOUSES FOR SALE

Country Home south of Hoopeston. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath ranch in a wooded setting. New custom kitchen, interior paint and carpets, maintenance free exterior, all on 1.75 acres. Asking \$179,900. Call 217-304-6547 for more info & a private showing.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

The Village of Rossville will be accepting sealed bids for a 2 story home at 123 E. Attica St., circa 1900, newer roof, vinyl siding, some newer repl. windows, newer Trane furnace never used. Interior needs finishing. Approx 2450 sq. ft. Large lot. Zoned B-1, majority of rewiring completed. Minimum bid \$20,000. Redevelopment agreement with terms/conditions. Call or pick up details at Municipal office 748-6914 or call Mayor Prillaman 748-6900. Bids to be opened 7 pm, Dec. 17, 2007.

Call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad.

Briefly

Siren testing

The monthly test of Hoopeston's emergency sirens will be done at 10 a.m. Tuesday.

90th birthday open house

Friendships are one of the few things that improve with age. The family of Robert E. Lingley invite friends to celebrate his 90th Birthday and a lifetime of good friendship on Sunday Dec 9th 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall 302 N. Market St. Hoopeston.

Tiny Tots

Tiny Tots story program will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tues-