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Lourdine Florek
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Letters to the Editor

Physician support not based on known fact

I appreciate the responses my letter received in the December 5th edition, particularly from Eric Drain. I am glad to hear that the intent of those upset about Dr. Kuha is not the assassination of the character of Dr. Timmons or other doctors in the group. This clarification is important, as any person who has been following this situation may, unfortunately, draw a different conclusion.

I am concerned, though, about how Mr. Drain seems to play fast and loose with the concept of "fact." Mr. Drain claims to have an understanding of the facts in Dr. Kuha's dismissal. A less astute reader may be convinced; however, others will surely see the intellectual

dishonesty of this claim. Knowing Dr. Kuha, working at the hospital, and asking employees and patients their opinions do not create a basis in fact. Far from it! Strangely, Mr. Drain has admitted, albeit indirectly, that he does not know the reason for Dr. Kuha's dismissal, as he has asked publicly for an explanation from Dr. Timmons. Clearly, Mr. Drain has no more "facts" than

See LETTER on other side

Briefly

Tiny Tots

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

Unclaimed photos

Two pictures of youngsters with Santa have not been claimed by their owners. The photos may be picked up at the water department at Hoopeston City Hall

Yearbooks in

Hoopeston Area High School yearbooks are in and may be picked up in the high school office. Books may be purchased for \$30 each.

Church to present holiday program

"The Heart of Christmas", a musical celebration of the birth of Christ, will be presented by the Hoopeston Community Church of the Nazarene Choir at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14 and Saturday, Dec. 15; and at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16. The church is located at 402 E. Honeywell Ave, Hoopeston.

The public is cordially invited to enjoy this program of traditional, contemporary and gospel holiday music. Free admission. For more information, call 217-283-9771.

Woman gets probation, must repay \$7,240 taken from city

A Hoopeston woman was sentenced to two years' probation on charges that she stole money while a city employee.

Elena Smith, 28, who listed an address in the 800 block of East Main, was sentenced Thursday in Vermilion County Circuit Court.

Judge Claudia Anderson sentenced Smith to 24 months probation. Under terms of the agreement. Smith must also repay \$7,240 over five years at \$120 per month.

Smith, a former Hoopeston Water Department clerk, was charged in April with one count of theft over \$300-\$10,000. That count was later dismissed and she was charged with official misconduct in connection with offenses on September 1, 2004 and December 31, 2006.

She pleaded guilty to that charge in return for receiving probation.

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Letter continued from other side

anyone else in our community.

Hence the point I was trying to make in my 12/4 correspondence: Even the other doctors, nurses, other staff, and patients at the hospital may not know the complete complement of details in this case. Only Dr. Timmons and the Board of Directors appear to understand the reason(s) for Dr. Kuha's termination. None of these individuals are anxious to come forward with the pertinent information. Conclusion? There is more to the story than any of us know. I for one am comfortable with that.

Earl Martin presents

Scrooge



Friday, December 14 7 p.m.
McFerren Park Civic Center
Hoopeston
Free Admission



In consideration of others, please no infants.
Thank you for your cooperation!

I am not in the medical field, and I know little about how the industry works. I can imagine, though, that there are several aspects of the career that are crucial to successful patient care. I would assume that doctors are evaluated on things like careful and complete charting and coding, continuing education, speed and accuracy of diagnosis, demonstration that appropriate tests and labs are ordered based on symptoms, punctuality, performance under pressure, and bedside manner, as well as patient feedback, all go into a doctor's performance. Do the nurses and other doctors at the hospital have full awareness of all these aspects (and all the other important ones to which I am not privy) of the performance of any one doctor? Again, I can only draw the conclusion that the matter is best left to the professionals like Dr. Timmons whose work in our community has been proven repeatedly, and not to upset nay-sayers.

Finally, the petition that has been passed about is essentially meaningless to me. It is already established that the doctors at the hospital, including Dr. Kuha, are gen-

erally good physicians. Again, they may very well be nice men. They have all had their share of successes, and for that, we should all be grateful. But what is the petition supposed to prove? If there were a petition in support of Dr. Timmons with 200 signatures on it, would that make his case stronger? And, is employment at a hospital a matter of democratic vote? I am relieved that it is not. That petition was signed by well meaning people who, again, lack the tools to make an adequately informed decision. Did any board members sign the petition?

I support Dr. Timmons because of how he has improved the reputation and quality of care at the hospital. In my view, things in the ER are much improved in the last few years because of Dr. Timmons's group. Because I wish to have the very best care close to home, and Dr. Timmons has afforded me that provision, he will continue to receive my support, trust, and business.

Kari Matthews
Rossville

Obituaries

CHEEVER - Sidney Cheever, 90, of Stockland died at 9 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, 2007 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Stockland United Methodist Church. Burial will be in Sugar Creek Cemetery, Stockland. Visitation will be 4-8 p.m. Tuesday at Knapp Funeral Home, Milford. Memorials are suggested to the church, Stockland Fire and Ambulance Department or Milford District Library.

MAUL - Glenn Edward Maul, 79, of Hoopeston died at 8:12 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 8, 2007 at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery. Visitation was 4-7 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Parkinson's Disease Foundation, 1359 Broadway, Suite 1509, New York, NY 10018 or Antioch Church of Christ.



Court Dispositions



November 15

David J. Shumate, Hoopeston, pleaded not guilty to preparation and placement of garbage; trial set for January 17, 2008.

Mary B. Justice, Hoopeston, pleaded not guilty to disorderly conduct; trial set for February 7, 2008.

Daryl B. Brown, Hoopeston, pleaded guilty to possession of cannabis, fined \$280; to do 37 hours public service work in lieu of fine.

Beau J. Edwards, Hoopeston, failed to appear at

status hearing; case to be filed with Vermilion County Circuit Court.

Weather



Rain today. High 38. Tonight, freezing rain. Low 28. Tomorrow, chance of freezing rain, snow late. High 33, low 28.

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

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

3 BR upstairs apt. Stove, fridge furnished. 1 car garage & basement access. \$400/mo., \$400 dep. No pets. References required. (217) 772-1254

HELP WANTED

Part time cook. Apply in person at Belly Busters, 329 W. Main, Hoopeston

The City of Hoopeston is taking applications for the position of a VISTA volunteer, to act as the Executive Director for the Hoopeston Main Street organization under the supervision of the economic development director. This is a volunteer position through AmeriCorps VISTA, which includes working 40 hours per week for one year and receiving an \$865 stipend each month. Applications and job description can be picked up at City Hall, and returned by 4 pm on Wednesday, December 12, 2007.

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.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Old cupboard \$150; refrigerator \$25; Colonial desk \$30. Cathy Brooks. (217) 758-6968 leave message

NOTICES

Village of Rossville accepting sealed bids, minimum bid starting at \$4,000 for a 1997 Chevy 4X\$ truck until Monday, Nov. 19, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at village office. Bids will be opened at board meeting at 7 p.m. on Mon., Nov. 19, 2007. Village reserves right to reject any or all bids.

Chris Pearson
Village Clerk

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.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

'95 F-150 . 6 cyl., extended cab, auto start. \$2500 OBO. (217) 283-7027 days, 283-9611 after 4:30