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Thursday, December 13, 2007

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

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

www.justthefacts.net

Letters to the Editor

Employee angered by assertions

I have been an employee of Hoopeston Hospital for 14 years, and have worked with Dr. Kuha for most of that time. So I'm naturally angry when someone named Kari Matthews tells the public that my opinion is "meaningless", along with 119 other employees who signed a petition in support of Dr. Kuha, not to mention the members of the community who also signed a petition.

She freely admits that she knows little about the medical field, that she doesn't care about the facts, and doesn't

even know Dr. Kuha. She is completely uninformed, and has apparently formed her opinions based on her devotion to Dr. Timmons. So how dare she try to invalidate my opinions, which are based on a whole lot more facts than her own!

We employees only want the best for Hoopeston Hospital. We have a terrific staff, a very nice and clean facility, and great doctors. I cannot fault the hospital in any way, but I do have a problem with people, no matter who they are, who believe that the opinions of the employees and the community are "meaningless".

Erik Walter
Hoopeston

Musings on doctor dismissal

Over the past few weeks, Just the Facts has received—and printed—several letters to the editor regarding Dr. Kuha's termination.

Both sides have valid points. Those who want Dr. Kuha to stay point out that he is a good doctor and that the community cannot afford to lose a good doctor.

Others say Dr. Timmons is a good doctor and should be allowed to make decisions about his business without questions from those who don't have all the facts behind the decision.

Unfortunately for me, I can see both sides. It would take the wisdom of Solomon to choose one or the other and I don't have that.

See MUSINGS on other side



Writer responds to Matthews' letter

My Reply to Ms. Matthews letter.

Have you ever sat beside your husband's ER bed, watching the highly competent nurses and doctor help ease the problems of that terminally ill patient? I have many times.

Have you ever personally experienced the exchange between that patient; the careful attention, respect, and kindness, and the nurses and the doctor? I have, more

See LETTERS on other side

Fish Fry 5-8 p.m. Friday American Legion

502 E. Penn, Hoopeston

Also serving ribs

Homemade onion rings available

Carry-outs available 283-6312



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Thank you for your cooperation!



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Musings continued from other side

I suspect that those fighting to save Dr. Kuha’s job are doing so out of a sense of righting what they see as a wrong and I applaud their efforts. I think those on the other side of the fence feel the same way about their position.

What concerns me is that the level of letters I have received lately has disintegrated. Some, on both sides, have dropped to the level of name-calling and that does no one any good.

I am concerned that in this free exchange of ideas, the hospital will be hurt, even though the hospital had nothing to do with the decision. I don’t want that.

Our hospital is important to the community, not only as an employer and drawing card for economic growth but also as a guardian of our citizens’ health. I, like many of you, use local medical services, including the medical center and hospital. One of the reasons I chose to live in Hoopeston was because we have a hospital.

We may not agree with the decision made by Dr. Timmons. We may not agree with decisions made by the hospital board. But the fact remains that Hoopeston

Community Memorial Hospital is OUR hospital. It plays a vital role in the community’s overall health. We’ve lost so much already. I don’t want anything to hurt our hospital.

And so, barring some new development in the situation, the letters that appear today will be the final letters printed on the subject.

This decision was not made lightly. As an old-school journalist, I highly value our freedoms, including that of a free press. The thought of that stifling that is abhorrent to me.

That said, it seems to me that continuing to print letters that reiterate what has already been stated is pointless, counterproductive and may be harmful to the community that I so dearly love.

If you disagree with me, feel free to let me know, either by email or regular mail.

I’m not averse to printing a few of those.

Letters continued from other side

times than I can count.

Have you ever personally experienced an utter disregard and dismissiveness of what that patient said, by one doctor? I have-once.

Have you ever encountered an arrogant and uncaring attitude toward that patient by one doctor? I have-once.

I am the well-meaning person who got 122 signatures on a petition supporting Dr. Kuha and unlike your erroneous assertion, I do have "the tools to make an adequately informed decision" !

Do not assume we supporters of Dr. Kuha are all uninformed clods just because we do not agree with your very narrow view of the situation.

P.S. The petition was not circulated to be meaningful to you.

Marcia Miller
Hoopeston

Weather



Chance of snow today. High 34. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 21. Tomorrow, sunny. High 33, low 20.

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

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Countryside Mall open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays until Christmas. Several tables of items at garage sale prices! Just in: sports albums, fur yarn (6 colors). Quilts & throws at bargain prices!. Visa, MasterCard, Discover accepted. 217 E. Main, Hoopeston

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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., Dec. 17, 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

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