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Just the Facts
Tuesday, November 3, 2009

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 www.justthefacts.net

HRHC announces remodeling plan, signs Carle agreement

A \$4.6 million remodeling plan and an agreement with Carle Foundation Hospital were announced at a Hoopeston Regional Health Center celebration Sunday.

The affiliation agreement with Carle will provide expanded services at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital, said Harry Brockus, CEO of HRHC. Among those are Carle therapy services offered locally, shared radiology readings and general surgeons from Carle who will have office hours in Hoopeston.

Hospital officials are also looking at offering gynecological services, including surgeries, pain management services and, next summer, adding a ear, nose and throat (ENT) surgeon.

The agreement is the first of its kind for Carle Founda-



James C. Leonard, MD, right, CEO of Carle Foundation in Urbana, and Russ Leigh, president of Hoopeston Regional Health Center board of directors, sign an agreement between the two facilities Sunday.

tion Hospital, said James C. Leonard, MD., CEO of Carle Foundation. While Carle partners with other hospitals, it is not as extensively as it will be with Hoopeston, he said. Hopefully, over the next five years, the agreement can be used as a template with other rural hospitals, he said.

The bedrock of the agreement is quality patient care, Leonard told those at the celebration. Meeting with Brockus, Leonard said he listened, and what Brockus said - that HRHC was not looking to Carle to solve its problems and that quality of care must be maintained -

meant "it was a done deal in my mind."

The deal is not about money. "I have a very funda-
See CARLE on other side

Hoopeston American Legion
502 E. Penn

Chicken Dinner
Saturday, Nov. 7 4-7 p.m.
Scott Brown and his crew will cook out on the open spit
½ chicken, potato salad, baked beans, roll \$8
Dance 9-?



Chili Dinner
Wednesday, Nov. 4 5-7 p.m.
Hoopeston American Legion
502 E. Penn


Chili \$4
Chili dog \$3
Hot dog \$2.50
Tea & Lemonade provided
Carry-outs available



Tuesday is
Senior Citizens & Ladies Day
Save **\$5 off** your oil change at
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Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce After Hours
Rod's Home & Auto
Welcome new owners Porter K. and Mary Ann Bertram and manager Greg Bertram!
300 E. Main 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesday



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Scary times

Hoopeston had a run of ghost and goblins recently between Spooktacular, sponsored by Hoopeston Main Street, and Halloween. Above left, Robin Lawson hands out candy at Global Fashions during Spooktacular while center, a carved pumpkin is used as part of lamp, entered in the pumpkin decorating contest, sponsored by the Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce. Left, a volunteer hands out candy to trick-or-treaters Saturday at Trunk or Treat, sponsored by Hoopeston Community Church of the Nazarene.

Carle continued from other side

mental belief that finances follow the practice of quality medicine,” Leonard said. Quality healthcare, along with a good educational system and support of agriculture and the business base, help keep a community vibrant, he said. “This isn’t 1980, this isn’t 1990. We realize the importance of having vibrant healthcare delivery system in the rural area.”

Brockus said not everything Hoopeston puts on the table will benefit Carle but Carle officials are willing to move forward with the project. On the flip side, Carle will, at times, say no to Hoopeston, Leonard said, adding “you will say no to us.”

HRHC board president Russ Leigh said the agreement marks a turning point in how local hospital officials look at Carle. “Twenty years ago, they were looked at as almost the enemy,” he said. The thinking then was “they were going to come gobble you up.”

Now, officials are happy about the partnership. “I’m excited about what’s going on,” Leigh said.

Brockus also announced the reconstruction project, slated for next year, will focus on the emergency room, constructing private rooms; the surgery suite; and \$1.7 million for new equipment.

The health center will apply for a low interest USDA loan or HUD funds, Brockus said.

Brockus also outlined other positive things HRHC has experienced in the last year, including:

- Employment up five percent and reduced operating expenses
- Community involvement, including the Independence Day celebration, Rossville sesquicentennial and free children’s movies. “I firmly believe joy, laughter and love are important to a healthy community,” he said.
- The August addition of Bridgeway, a self-referral pro-

gram for senior citizens experiencing depression. The program draws clients from not only Hoopeston and the surrounding area.

● Walk-in patients being seen at Charlotte Russell Medical Center.

● A five-year agreement with Hoopeston Emergency Medical Specialists, LTD, and physicians’ assistants.

“Last January, I referred to Hoopeston Regional Health Center as a diamond in the rough,” Brockus said. “After months of planning and hard work, it’s starting to shine.”

Weather



Sunny today. High 50. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 34. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy. High 53, low 34.

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

Police News



Rory R. Kempen, 23, of Hoopeston, was arrested after an incident at 9:30 a.m. Sunday in the 500 block of South Fifth St. He was charged with aggravated battery on complaints from a 33-year-old Hoopeston woman and aggravated battery on a complaint from a 26-year-old Hoopeston man.

Both victims were treated at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital.

Kempen was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

A 30-year-old Hoopeston woman reported at 10 a.m. Sunday that someone damaged her home in the 300 block of North Eighth Ave., and entered it.

Classifieds

CHILD CARE

Licensed daycare has openings for child 6 wks-12 years. CPR, first aid certificates. Serve meals & snacks daily. If interested, call Brenda Linares, (217) 283-9340

HELP WANTED

Taking applications for part time bartenders at the VFW Post 4826, 428 W. Orange St., Hoopeston

HOUSES FOR SALE

2 story, 3-4 BR house on corner lot in Rossville. Great neighborhood, 1 block from grade school. Asking \$29,500. Will consider selling on contract. Call (217) 213-1400

HOUSES FOR RENT

Two bedroom duplex for rent in Hoopeston. Very nice, stove and fridge included. No smoking, No pets. References and Deposit required. \$400 per month. Call 217-304-6547.

Rossville: Ranch; 2 B/R, 2 Bth, newer furnace & C/A. New Carpet. No smoking, no pets. 2 car det gar. \$490/mo + \$490 sec dep. Terry Prillaman 748-6900 Owner is Realtor.

2 BR, 1 bath, new carpet. Available Nov. 2, \$425/mo. (217) 304-2145

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