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Sunday: Grilled Chicken Breast
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Lourdine Florek, owner

Just the Facts®
Friday, January 15, 2010
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 **www.justthefacts.net**

Tim Johnson issues statement on closed door negotiations

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Timothy V. Johnson strongly criticized the Congressional Democratic leadership for continuing health care negotiations behind closed doors, in conflict of President Obama's promise and in conflict with the basic premise of openness in government.

"This legislation could be the most sweeping change of law in decades in its direct and personal impact on the lives of every American citizen," Rep. Johnson said. "I, along with the rest of the public, had faith in the President's explicit campaign promise to have these hearings be televised. That faith has now been shaken by Leadership's arrogant refusal to include not only Republicans but many Democrats as well, not to mention the press and the public, from final negotiations on a bill that affects the most intimate and personal decisions of our lives.

"If the need for openness wasn't obvious before, it hit us full in the face as we learned in the aftermath of the Senate health care vote of the back-room deals that were made to ensure passage. Sen. Ben Nelson of Nebraska, who provided the final vote necessary, was promised 100 percent federal funding for the cost of Medicaid expansion. Vermont, Massachusetts and Louisiana –

also represented by Senators vital to the vote – also were promised additional funding. That means citizens of Illinois and all the rest of the states whose senators did not negotiate sweetheart deals will be picking up the tab.

"Almost daily, as people are able to decipher what the Senate has passed, we learn of more insidious ramifications of this flawed legislation. Another bomb dropped yesterday when we learned that the marriage penalty on low-income and middle-income couples who buy insurance through exchanges will cost them \$2,000 more than if they were unmarried and living together.

See JOHNSON on other side

Wellington Lions Club
Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, Jan. 16
6:30-10 a.m.
Park Shelter,
Wellington, IL
Adults \$5 Children 6-12 \$1.50




Mustard Seed
Christian Daycare
In Rossville-Alvin High School
217-748-6370
Open 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Ashley Dobkins, Director

- January Special Half Price Enrollment
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Northfork Conservation Club
is open again!
Under new management!
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Hoopeston deliveries available - 283-4646
Special through February 15:
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Can be picked up at the club




The residents of Hoopeston Nursing Home thank everyone for their donations to our Christmas Bow Tree. You have made it possible for us to purchase a new flat screen TV for our activity room. We appreciate everything the community does for us not only at Christmas but throughout the year.



It's never too late to start saving for retirement!
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Johnson continued from other side

“This legislation will not reduce our premiums or the nation’s health care costs. It will reduce services now available to our senior citizens under Medicare and will expand the eligibility for Medicaid to an estimated 11 million more people - levels unsustainable by our states, small businesses and working Americans that have to bear the costs.

“Our economy is already in a deep freeze. State of Illinois revenue is down \$5 billion from last year. State workers are facing furlough days. The University of

Illinois administration, faculty and civil service staff are already being forced to take furlough days because our flagship university is owed some \$436 million by the state.

“Illinois is not alone. Governors throughout the country, Democrat and Republican alike, are pleading that Congress revisit this issue.

“As the implications of this legislation trickle out, it is perhaps understandable that the Democratic leadership wants to retreat behind closed doors. It is consistent with

their pattern of governance since taking control of Congress.

“The House of Representatives passed its version of health care late on a Saturday with virtually no chance to review, no amendments and no substantive debate. The Senate forced passage on Christmas Eve on a bill we still don’t understand. Now Democratic leadership refuses to allow a formal conference committee to work out the differences, and refuses to allow the public to witness their deliberations.

“These actions are indefensible and the public is outraged. It is not time to close the curtains. It never was. It is time to let the sunshine in and begin this process over from the beginning.”

Police News

No tickets or injuries were reported in an accident at 3:51 p.m. Wednesday in the 600 block of East Orange.

Police received conflicting reports on the accident, which involved Thomas C. Beissmann, of East Lynn, in a 2005 Dodge truck, and Sarah E.

Holzinger, also of Hoopeston, in a 1997 Chevrolet.

Holzinger and an unidentified witness in her vehicle said Beissmann backed into them, while Beissmann and other witnesses said Holzinger backed into him.

Richard C. Strawser III, 22, of Hoopeston, was found during a search of a home at 7:56 p.m. Wednesday in the 400 block of North Eighth Ave.

Strawser was wanted on a Vermilion County traffic warrant for rule to show cause for uninsured vehicle.

He failed to post \$274 bond and was taken to the Public Safety Building in Danville.

Obituaries

GOODWINE - Hildur (Anderson) Goodwine, 105, of Hoopeston, died at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2009, at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Brown-Alkire Funeral Home, Hoopeston. Burial will be in Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Visitation will be 9:30-11 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Antioch Church of Christ or Country Terrace Apartments.

Weather

Mostly cloudy today and tonight. High 35, low 25. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 37, low 26. Sunday, partly sunny. High 38, low 24.

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

Briefly

60th anniversary open house

An open house to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Don and Wanda Ervin will be held at the home of Dave and Charlene Ervin, 415 South Third Street on Saturday, January 16th from 2 to 4 p.m.

The couple would like to welcome friends but request no gifts.

Community Awards ceremony

The Hoopeston Community Awards ceremony will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 25 at the Lorraine Cinema. Admission is free this year.

The Karate Club
Bill & Susan McGee
upstairs of Multi Agency
206 S. First Ave., Hoopeston
Individuals \$50/mo.
Families \$75/mo.
(217) 497-3916 (217) 497-7307

HAMS 7th graders beat Heritage

Hoopeston Area Middle School seventh graders upped their record to 3-0 with a 25-9, 25-14 win over Heritage Tuesday night.

In eighth grade action, Heritage defeated HAMS, 25-21, 21-25, 25-15, dropping the eighth grade team’s record to 0-3.

Leaders for the evening were Mariah Moore with four aces and Kylee Simpson with two digs.

Classifieds

HOUSES FOR RENT

Hoopeston: 3 BR, remodeled. No pets, no smoking. \$400/mo., \$400 deposit. Call (217) 841-1852

House for rent in Hoopeston. 3 bedroom, central air, 2 car garage, large lot, very nice. \$500 per month. No smoking, no pets. Deposit and References required. 217-304-6547

House for rent in Hoopeston. 2 bedroom. Nice neighborhood. \$425 per month. No pets. Deposit and References required. 217-304-6547

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Investment property for sale in Hoopeston. 2, 3 & 4 bedroom single family units. Several to choose from. Serious inquiries only. For more information, e-mail Hoopestonrentals@yahoo.com

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