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Lourdine Florek, owner

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Tim Johnson explains 'no' vote on healthcare to citizens

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Timothy V. Johnson issued the following statement in response to the passage of H.R. 3590.

"I voted against this legislation for many reasons. It strikes at the very core of our liberties and is a giant step toward wrecking an already fragile economy," Rep. Johnson said. "This is a regrettable day in the history of this Congress and I want my constituents to know the dire consequences of this bill.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- \$569.2 billion in tax increases
- \$523.5 billion in Medicare cuts
- \$48 billion more for Medicaid Expansion

"The more we learn about this legislation, the worse it is. Payoffs and favors have been passed out like candy to buy passage of a bill nobody completely understands. Even the President's own chief actuary at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services said he could not fully analyze the cost of the legislation before the vote.

"The bill contains no language that would prohibit federal funds from being used to fund elective abortions. For the past 35 years, our government has statutorily blocked the use of Federal funds being used for abortions. That is unacceptable!

"The bill projects \$17 billion in tax revenue from people who cannot afford to or choose not to comply with the mandate to obtain health insurance, and \$52 billion in new taxes on employers that do not provide so-called acceptable or affordable coverage. Obviously that is going to negatively impact employers and employees, especially those least able to pay.

"This bill also for the first time in history applies Medicare taxes to capital gains, dividends and other investment income. This would increase the capital gains tax from 2.9 to 3.8 percent, pushing the top capital gains rate from 15 to 23.8 percent and the top rate for

dividends to 43.4 percent in conjunction with tax cuts expiring at the end of this year

"The cuts in senior health care are among the most distressing. This bill basically uses Medicare as a piggy-bank to pay for these new entitlement programs. The cuts in Medicare are so deep even the White House's own Medicare actuaries predict that providers might end their participation. Most of these cuts will be in reduced cost-sharing that senior citizens receive through Medicare Advantage.

"Reimbursement rates will also be cut for in-patient and out-patient hospital services, long-term care facilities, psychiatric hospitals, hospice, labs, medical product suppliers and prescription drugs. Citizens in the small towns in the 15th District of Illinois will surely lose many of their doctors.

"Millions of people will be pushed into Medicaid because of this bill, with the expectation that states share in the cost. This is yet another unfunded mandate that states such as Illinois – already \$14 billion in debt this year alone and unable to pay its basic obligations – simply cannot afford. The impact on schools, social services, law enforcement, and fiscal soundness is obvious.

"With states already squeezing payments to providers, Medicaid patients will find it harder and harder to find doctors and dentists to treat them. This is already occurring. Nationwide, 28.2 percent of physicians refuse to accept new Medicaid patients, including 9,472 doctors in Illinois. Illinois already has an average wait time of 103 days for Medicaid reimbursement. This will only worsen.

"Veterans too are being penalized in this headlong rush to shove this legislation through. The bill does not protect the health-care programs provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the military's Tricare

See **HEALTHCARE** on other side

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Thursday: Swiss Steak

Friday: Cod & 12 oz. Ribeye steaks
Open Bowling

Saturday: Prime Rib & Ribeye steak

Sunday: Swiss Steak 1-1:30

Coming Saturday, April 3
Aces & 8 Band 8:30-12:30

Easter Dinner, April 4, 1-2
Menu includes turkey with bread
stuffing, glazed ham with
candied sweet potatoes, plus regular menu.

Get your teams together to
Bowl for Kids Sake on
Saturday, April 17.

April 24, it's Southbound Band
8:30-12:30
719 W. Elm, Hoopeston (217) 283-6505

Who is that in my mirror?

Do you often have times when you are feeling low, depressed, or despondent? Do you feel all alone? Almost everyone has experienced these kinds of feelings at sometime. How one addresses these feelings, determines how much suffering they experience as well. Some people smoke, drink alcohol, use mind altering drugs, eat more, abuse their children and/or mate, to hide these feelings, but you will not solve your problems at the bottom of a bottle, with a pill, a smoke, or abuse to anyone.

Others are able to share their worries with friends,

Library sets movie program

Are you eight or older and want to spend an afternoon at the library? Join Janell at 1 p.m. Monday, March 29, to watch what happens to a pampered Chihuahua from Beverly Hills that finds herself lost and alone on the mean streets of Mexico. Families of youngsters eight or older are welcome. For more information, call 283-6711.

**Back Buying in front
Global Fashions
for 2 hours only -
9am-11am ONLY
this Saturday**
**Bring out your coins, silver, gold,
pocket watches, tokens, costume
jewelry & dental gold for instant offers.**
**I'm doing Antique show in
Bloomington this Sunday & accepting
antiques for consignment. Consigners
get 75%. Bring smalls & call Shannon
to have larger items picked up**
217 841-3991
**PS: Market is up so clean out! Recycle
your old items into \$\$\$\$**

family, and get relief from their faith in God.

Some are able to find a friend that they didn't really know they had. That is the face that stares at you when you look into a mirror. That face knows you better than anyone. It has been with you all of your life, and know matter how much you may try to fool yourself and others, you can not fool that face. That face will always tell you the truth, and tell you what you really need to know when you are going through tough times.

If you can make that face in the mirror your best friend, and confide in it's wisdom, you can dismiss

Healthcare continued from other side

system. It does not cover children suffering from spina bifida as a result of a parent's exposure to Agent Orange, and it does not cover dependents, widows and orphans who are served by the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Our people serving in the military put their trust in the existence of these plans. Now millions of soldiers, veterans, widows and dependents are in jeopardy.

"Yet another flaw is that this bill leaves in place a marriage penalty. The structure of subsidies for health insurance offers more aid to non-married couples than married ones.

"A lesser-known aspect of this bill is that it will cause the IRS to spend an extra \$10 billion in new enforcement resources. According to the House Ways and Means Committee Republicans, the IRS may need to hire as many as 16,000 new agents, auditors and other employees to investigate and collect billions in new taxes and penalties.

"The agency will have the authority to fine individuals up to \$2,250 or 2 percent of your income – whichever is greater – for failure to prove you have purchased 'minimum essential coverage.'

"This legislation expands the reach of government into the most private aspects of our lives. It removes your basic right to elect to purchase insurance or not and to choose the kind of insurance you want. The government will choose it for you, dictate coverage, and if it covers too much, you'll be taxed.

all the negative thoughts going through your mind and find positive thinking that can build your spirits. You have proven that going over and over the negative things on your mind have only made you feel more depressed. Now is the time to find positive things that can make you feel good about yourself.

I once heard that you can consider yourself a success, if you can do one thing better than someone else. I would suggest that everyone can find something that they can do better than one other person.

I hope that anyone that is suffering from negative thinking, can find some way to relieve themselves,

"More than 150 new agencies, commissions and government offices will be created under this monstrosity, bloating the bureaucracy even more, and all to be overseen by 13 more 'czars' – unelected, highly paid bureaucrats whose reason for being is to control your health care and your life.

"Health care expansion continues an ongoing theme under this Leadership. They have built a legacy of government intrusion, entitlement and public debt that flies in the face of personal responsibility and constitutional principles of limited government. It is clear that this administration and the majority in Congress have no regard for the will of the American people. The evolution of statism in this nation is truly horrifying. It is also a call to action. Using our right to vote, November cannot come soon enough."

Police News



A 15-year-old Hoopeston girl reported at 5:43 p.m. Monday that someone took her cell phone from her locker at Hoopeston Area High School.

Weather



Partly sunny today. High 59. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 38. Tomorrow, rain likely. High 53, low 35.

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

and find pleasant thoughts that will help you build your spirits, to help you feel better.

Tom Evans
Hoopeston

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Hoopeston Migrant Head Start is accepting applications for the following positions:

Families Service Coordinator, this applicant must be bilingual spoken and written, have social work education but a degree is not required. Some work experience and familiar with migrant families. This position is full-time during the season.

Education Coordinator must have a degree in early childhood education or a minimum of a CDA or State equivalent credentials. Have knowledge and experience of Head Start philosophy and practices, Spanish speaking preferred but not required. Must be healthy which does not interfere with responsibilities and have the education or experience in collaborating with parents to educate their children. This position is full-time during the season. **Assistant Coordinator** must be bilingual spoken and written, assist in the operations of the center. This position is part-time during the season.

Bus aides, this is a split shift position, part-time during the season. Age requirement for all positions is 18, due to the requirement of passing the background check. Please fax resumes to 815-984-4500 or send to HMHS, P.O. Box 136, Wellington, IL 60973, or call 815-984-3706 and leave a message. Accepting applications until 4/30/2010 EOE.

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Hoopeston: 843 E. Seminary. \$475/mo.. No pets. For application, call (217) 304-3477

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