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Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

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

www.justthefacts.net

Barickman co-sponsors legislation to end tuition waivers

PONTIAC—With the beginning of a new year, state Rep. Jason Barickman (R-Champaign) has renewed his push to put an end to the General Assembly scholarship program and signed on to co-sponsor legislation that will do just that in 2012.

House Bill 3901 will abolish the legislative perk that has allowed participating lawmakers to hand out two, four-year tuition waivers to students in their district seeking to attend an Illinois university.

Legislative tuition waivers, which can be split into single year scholarships for eight separate students, have been marred in controversy over the past few years. A number of investigations uncovered improper awarding of waivers to ineligible individuals who either did not live within the legislative districts, were relatives of the legislator or related to campaign donors of the officials who were awarding the scholarships.

The overall cost of the tuition program has also become a problem, as the state continues to owe billions in overdue bills and debt.

"This should be easy vote for legislators. We can put an end to a program that clearly has been prone

See WAIVERS on other side

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Just the Facts

will not be printed tomorrow. Publication will resume Friday.



Hoopeston American Legion 502 E. Penn

Indoor Flea Market/ Rummage Sale

Saturday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

VFW

Orange & 4th Ave., Hoopeston

- Bonanza Raffle on paper Sundays 1 p.m.
 Jackpot \$270
- Thursday: \$1 beers, tacos, quesadilas 5-8 p.m.
- Still have \$2 beer 6 days a week

Briefly

Preview Night set show choir, jazz bands

Hoopeston Area Show Choir and Jazz bands Preview Night will be held beginning at 5 p.m., on Friday, Jan. 13. A spaghetti dinner, with freewill donation, will begin at 5 p.m. followed by the show at 7.

Nominees sought

Anyone who has had an experience with an exemplary

Obituaries

HOUMES - Gladys P. (Clayborn) Houmes, 78, of Hoopeston, died at 10:18 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 8, 2012, at Hoopeston Community Memorial Nursing Home. Graveside service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at Floral Hill Cemetery, Hoopeston. Memorials are suggested to the nursing home or Iroquois Memorial Hospice. Brown-Alkire Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

JACKSON - Rodney Jackson, 66, of Hoopeston, died at 4:41 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9, 2012, at Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital. Arrangements are pending at Anderson Funeral Home, Hoopeston.

Hoopeston EMT is asked to nominate that person for the EMT of the Year award. Email Tanya McVicker, Tanya.mcvicker@hoopestoncmh.org or call (217) 283-5531, ext. 255. The award will be presented at the Community Awards Night January 25.

Coaches sought

Hoopeston Area Softball Association is accepting

Police News



Kyle B. Ponton, 21, of Hoopeston, was arrested at 12:03 a.m. Monday in the 400 block of South Fourth Street. Wanted on a Ford County warrant for failure to appear/possession of cannabis, he was released on bond with a new court date.

Waivers continued from other side

to abuse and we can save our state universities anywhere from 12 to 14 million dollars annually. This is the 'low-hanging fruit' that the public has repeatedly asked us to eliminate," said Barickman.

Barickman said there is strong support among members of both parties to put an end to the corruption-ridden program. "This particular legislation has almost 40 co-sponsors split pretty evenly amongst Republicans and Democrats. I and a number of other legislators have voluntarily put an end to awarding the tuition waivers, and the Governor has said he is in favor of abolishing the program," Barickman said.

"There is no excuse not to end this program in 2012. It will be a small step toward restoring public trust, and is a good example that shows there are still plenty of places to cut waste from our budget."

Barickman has not awarded any legislative scholarships since taking office last January.

House Bill 3901 currently awaits action from the House Rules committee.

Weather



Rain likely today. High 48. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 25. Tomorrow, chance of snow. High 29, low 16. For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, (217) 283-6221.

coaching applications for the coming summer season. Forms are available at leaguelineup.com/hasa. Click on "handouts" or calling Leah, 304-4369. Applications will be taken through January.

Farm Toy Show

DACC Ag Club will sponsor their 24th Annual Farm Toy Show in the Mary Miller Gym on Sunday, January 29, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The show will feature farm toys in a variety of sizes of reproduction. Scale models as small as 1/64th the actual size will be shown. Attendees may buy, sell, or trade toys with area collectors and dealers. Concessions will be available. Admission is \$2 for adults and free for those 11 and under.

New chiropractic office, in the Hoopeston area, is seeking team oriented, multi-tasking, energetic and dependable assistant. Computer experience a must along with customer service, and phone skills. Position involves assisting with therapy, x-rays, and patient care. Previous experience with insurance/collections desirable but not necessary. Attention to detail and a positive attitude are essential. Send resume to: Office Manager, 7 Boiling Springs Rd., Danville, IL 61832

Classifieds

HOUSES FOR RENT

2 BR duplex. Stove, fridge provided. No pets. Deposit, references required. \$400/mo. Call (217) 304-6547 for application.

Hoopeston: 2 BR, 1 car attached garage, all utility hookups. Available Jan. 1. \$400/mo+deposit. (815) 644-0963

3 BR, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Hardwood floors, new tile in kitchen, baths. \$450/mo., \$450 deposit. No pets. (217) 495-1387

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