


 **Manager Brian Armstrong's**
New Year's Special
 10W30, 5W30 or 5W20
Full Service Oil Change \$26⁹⁹
 w/coupon. Expires 1/31/12
Hoopeston Express Lube
 Rtes. 1 & 9, Hoopeston 283-5373
 www.quicklube4u.com

Computer Repair & Upgrades
 Affordable in-home service and upgrades on all makes and models of desktops and laptops. Virus & malware removal. Custom rebuilt computers for sale. Serving the entire Hoopeston area. 40+ years experience.
 **Bob Charbonneau**
The Christian Handyman LLC
217-274-1202

 **Tool Savings!**
 While Supplies Last!
5⁰⁰
12 3/8"
Wonder Bar
338230

Olympic Hardware
 516 N. Dixie Hwy., Hoopeston
 (217) 283-5186 Open Sundays


Email: publish@justthefacts.net Phone/Fax (217) 283-9348
Just the Facts[©] Lourdine Florek, owner
Thursday, January 19, 2012
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Requests prompt review of all Hoopeston liquor licenses

Recent requests concerning Hoopeston liquor licenses are prompting a review of all liquor licenses.

At the January 5 meeting, Frances Burke Ramirez requested a new category of license to allow her to sell upscale wines and have wine tastings at a new gift shop to be opened at 107 W. Main.

A draft of an ordinance to cover Ramirez' request, based on a similar Danville ordinance, will have to be redrafted, after Jerry Rosen of the Beverage Retailers Alliance of Illinois said a provision will not meet Ramirez' needs.

That provision called for wine to be sold as part of gift baskets. Rosen said that part would not work if the shop is allowed to hold wine tastings, expected to result in wine sales.

Alderman Bill Goodwine wondered how that would make the shop different from and a competitor to existing liquor businesses, but Rosen said the shop will offer wines not currently offered locally, such as those from Moldova, Russia and Lebanon, among others.

Additionally, while initial wine tastings are set to be held at Ramirez' home/shop, Rosen said he could see the tastings quickly outgrowing that location. "I can envision that once this thing gets out...we could have 60-80 people," he said. In that event, the tasting could be held at a local service club or other liquor-approved site, Rosen said.

Mayor Bill Crusinberry asked city attorney Scott Perkins to meet with Ramirez and Rosen and draft an ordinance to meet Ramirez' needs.

An additional request came from the owner of Pizza Hut, which currently has a Class AAA license, at a cost of \$1,000 per year, said Mayor Bill Crusinberry.

The license - allowing liquor to be sold while food

is being served, at a table, not a bar - is more than the restaurant requires, Crusinberry said, adding the owner did not pay for the second half of the license and that Pizza Hut is no longer serving beer.

The owner did ask whether a new license could be created, limiting alcohol sales to just beer, and at a less expensive fee, Crusinberry said. "He said he didn't know if he sold \$1,000 worth of beer a year," he said.

Looking at existing ordinances, Crusinberry noted that current Class B license requirements do not specify whether consumption is on- or off-premises, an error that must be fixed, he said.

Since the city is looking at so many license issues, Alderman Brandon Hamilton said the city should contact other license-holders to "appease all parties that might have an interest in this," a plan to which Crusinberry agreed.

Rosen expressed concern that Ramirez' request might "get lost in the reorganization" if it takes six months, but Hamilton allayed that concern. "I don't see it taking six months, but if we're going to revisit this, we might as well do it right," he said.

In unrelated business, the council approved the city's portion of Main Street water main project. Alderman Bill McElhaney said the \$338,907 tab will be split with \$150,000 coming from the Tax Increment Financing fund and the remaining \$188,907 from depreciation funds.

Hoopeston also was approved for a \$750,000 Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grant for the project. That money should be released with the approval of the resolution allotting the city's portion, Crusinberry said.

In related discussion, Crusinberry said officials at
See LICENSES on other side

VFW
 Orange & 4th Ave., Hoopeston
 • Bonanza Raffle on paper
 Sundays 1 p.m.
 Jackpot \$280
 • Thursday: \$1 beers, tacos,
 quesadillas 5-8 p.m.
 • Still have \$2 beer 6 days a week

Back buying gold, sterling swiss watches & old coins this Saturday Global Fashions
 No appointment required.
 Wanted: silver coins before 1964, any gold or sterling any condition, broken, dental, flatware, Swiss wrist or pocket watches (any condition) old vintage jewelry that's not gold - bring your whole jewelry box!
 In-home appointments after 2pm Call 317 473-5714
 Prices have been steadily dropping, time to cash out before they drop lower!

Hudson Drug and Hallmark Shop
 of Paxton
 is now offering **FREE** next day home delivery to Rossville and Hoopeston. Deliveries will be made every weekday around 1 pm .
 Please contact Hudson's at
217-379-4858
 for more information.
 • Competitive pricing.
 • We will match competitors pricing.
 • We also take all major insurance plans.

B I N G O

every Thursday 7 p.m.

Hoopeston
American Legion
 502 E. Penn

The Karate Club 

Bill & Susan McGee
upstairs of Multi Agency
 206 S. First Ave., Hoopeston

(217) 497-3916 **(217) 497-7307**

**You can run from snow
 but you can't hide.**

T&L Lawncare
(217) 283-7214



Licenses continued from other side

Illinois EPA have requested documentation to support the city's application for a grant/loan to refurbish the city's water storage tanks.

That process started in 2006, when the city applied for funding. In 2007, Hoopeston was pre-approved for funds but got bumped out of the program. Crusinberry and city engineers have continued to contact the IEPA about the project since then.

The good news about the delay, Crusinberry said, is that if the city has to get a loan, the rates have dropped since the initial request was made. Then at 4 percent, the low-interest loan rate is now just over 2.2 percent, he said.

If funding is allowed, the city will refurbish both the aerial and ground storage tanks. The ground tank is in serious need of repair, Crusinberry said, calling it an "eyesore." Additionally, the aerator atop the tank leaks and has damaged the top of the tank, he said.

In unrelated business, the council:

- Accepted the Prairie Meadows subdivision, giving

the city responsibility for streets, park and water system in the 10.44 acre property.

Crusinberry said the city's subdivision ordinance mandated a park at Prairie Meadows and suggested possibly eliminating that ordinance for future development.

- Heard from McElhaney that work has started on the Main Street water main project and is going smoothly.

- Heard from Perkins about the former Hoopeston Plumbing and Heating building on Market Street. He said an agreement had been worked out but that the owner refused to sign it. A hearing is scheduled for February. A new hearing officer will have to be

Police News



Seth J. Gredy, 26, of Hoopeston, turned himself in to police at 3:24 p.m. Monday. Wanted on a Vermilion County warrant for failure to appear/pretrial/domestic battery, he was released on bond.

Esperanza Resendez, 49, of Hoopeston, was ticketed after an accident at 1:48 p.m. Tuesday in the 200 block of South First Avenue. Police said Resendez, in a 2005 Ford F150, struck a parked 2008 Buick Lacrosse owned by Carolyn Sapochetti, also of Hoopeston.

She was cited for no valid drivers license and was given a date to appear in Vermilion County Circuit Court.

Gary E. Watson, 47, of Hoopeston, was ticketed after an accident at 2:26 p.m. Tuesday in the Hoopeston IGA parking lot, 1030 W. Chestnut. Watson, in a 1995 Ford Escort, struck a 2006 Kia, driven by Lacey Benjamin, also of Hoopeston.

Watson was ticketed for driving on a revoked license and driving an uninsured motor vehicle and was released on bond.

Weather



Chance of snow today. High 26. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 9. Tomorrow, chance of snow. High 28, low 19..

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

brought in because of conflicts with the city's two hearing officers, he said.

- Received a proposal from Crusinberry that would add a vehicle impound fee to be paid by drivers whose vehicles are towed for violations of vehicle statutes. In discussing the proposal, Crusinberry cited the number of repeat offenders, suggesting there might be fewer if motorists have to pay a \$300 impound fee.

Alderman Randy Carter suggested an administrative fee also needs to be charged to cover the cost of city employees handling paperwork for the impound.

- Heard from Alderman Ed Lotz that the police department is close to hiring a new dispatcher to replace George Smith, who retired.

- Heard from Alderwoman Susan Comstock, who praised dog catcher Erica Green for retrieving a mother pit bull, who was chained to a house, along with nine puppies.

Crusinberry added his praise for Green, who, he said, answers calls at all hours. "She has done a good job since she's been on the job," he said.

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Clean, quiet 2 BR, 1 bath apt. 723 W. Orange. \$385/month + utilities. Security deposit and application required. Available Now. Mike 312-371-8585

HELP WANTED

Chittick Family Eye Care is currently hiring FT high-energy, self-motivated optician for our Hoopeston office location. Position includes educating patients on spectacle lens choices, frame styling, glasses dispensing, adjustment and repair. This person may provide leadership and management of location operations. Qualifications: service-oriented & ability to juggle multiple tasks in a fast-paced medical environment. Retail sales experience required. We offer a comprehensive training program as well as competitive benefit package. Send resume and cover letter to: hr@chittickeyecare.com or fax 1-866-431-1195 www.incrediblyfocused.com

VEHICLES FOR SALE

2006 Dodge Dakota - quad cab, Magnum V-8, custom bed top-per, tow package, full power, loaded, very clean, \$14,200 OBO. Call 217-274-1202 for more details.

Call (217) 283-9348 or email
publish@justthefacts.net to place your ad!