

**The Karate Club** 

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

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

Email: [publish@justthefacts.net](mailto:publish@justthefacts.net) Phone/Fax (217) 283-9348  
Lourdine Florek, owner

**Just the Facts**®

**Wednesday, February 1, 2012**  
Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication  
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Photo contributed

**Court jesters**

The Okinawan School of Karate performed during the halftime show for the World Famous Harlem Globetrotters at the Danville Palmer Arena on January 5. Mike Webb and his students performed Karate basics, Kata (forms), Weapons Katas and finished with a fight scene between Webb and his son, Chris, who won the duel. OSK has performed during other half time events including the Hoopeston Cornjerkers boys basketball game and also at the Assembly Hall for the Illini women's basketball team. Demonstrations are choreographed to music and provide an excellent opportunity for students to demonstrate their skills in a fun and exciting manner. Just before the start of the second half the Globetrotters came back out on the court and took a photo with the students to highlight their performance. Students who performed were Lucy Lugo, Trenton Betka, James Goodrum, Isaiah Debban, Luis Lugo, Ricardo Diaz, Natalie Jenkins, Chris Webb, Brian Pettit and Mike Webb. Okinawan School of Karate is located at 208 E. Main St. in Hoopeston and is owned and operated by Instructor Mike Webb.

**FRIDY REALTY**  
*Open House*  
Saturday, Feb. 4 1-3 p.m.  
617 W. Penn St., Hoopeston

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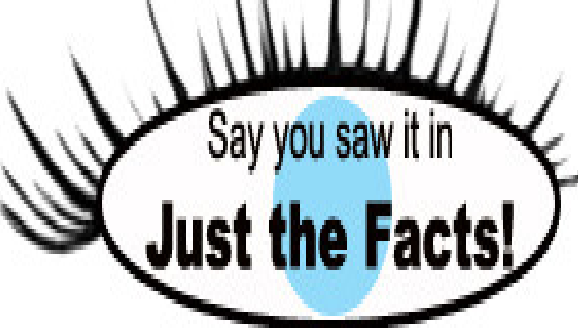


# Super Bowl

## Party

### Sunday

**\$2<sup>00</sup> 16 oz. Bud Light**  
**Aluminum Bottles**  
**\$1.25 16 oz. Drafts -**  
**Bud•Bud Light•Blue Moon**



Say you saw it in

# Just the Facts!

## The PIT STOP at EAST LANES

**Wednesday: Ribeye Sandwich, Spaghetti & Italian Beef**

**Thursday: Swiss Steak**

**Friday: Cod & Ribeye**

**Saturday: Prime Rib & Ribeye**

### Open Bowling

**Wednesday-2-close Friday - all day.**

**Cosmic Bowl 8 p.m. Saturday**

**Sign up now!**

**Surprise Birthday Party Saturday**

**8:30-12:30 with Cory Birch as DJ.**

**February 11: 7-8-9 Pin Tournament**

**Watch for our Valentine's Day special!**

**719 W. Elm, Hoopeston (217) 283-6505**

# USDA seeks applications for grants, loans for renewable energy projects in rural areas

CHAMPAIGN—USDA has announced another opportunity to go greener and cut energy costs with support from the agency’s Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). The program has helped 290 agricultural producers and rural small businesses in Illinois since it was authorized by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill).

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that USDA is seeking applications for grants and loans for a variety of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

"Renewable energy development presents an enormous economic opportunity for rural America," said Vilsack. "This funding will assist rural farmers, ranchers and business owners to build renewable energy projects, providing opportunities for new technologies, create green jobs and help America become more energy self-sufficient."

"We have seen remarkable results in energy savings in rural Illinois," said USDA Rural Development State Director Colleen Callahan. "Our applicants have installed solar panels, geothermal systems, wind turbines

and manure digesters. Others have upgraded equipment to more energy efficient models. All these awardees are experiencing energy savings of at least 30 percent."

"Not only has REAP been good for their bottom line, but the rest of us can enjoy the air and water benefits of greener technology while we chip away at our dependence on imported fuel," she said.

REAP is designed to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses reduce energy costs and consumption and help meet the nation’s critical energy needs. This year, USDA will award at least \$12.5 million in grant and approximately \$48.5 million in loan guarantees. It is accepting the following applications:

- renewable energy system and energy efficiency improvement grant applications and combination grant and guaranteed loan applications until March 30, 2012;
- renewable energy system and energy efficiency improvement guaranteed loan only applications on a continuous basis up to June 29, 2012;
- renewable energy system feasibility study applications through March 30, 2012; and
- energy audits and renewable energy development assistance applications through February 21, 2012.


More information on how to apply for funding is available in the January 20, 2012 [Federal Register](#), pages 2948 through 2954. Questions in Illinois can be directed to Mary Warren at [Mary.Warren@il.usda.gov](mailto:Mary.Warren@il.usda.gov) or by calling her at (217) 403-6218.

Funding is an example of ways USDA is helping revitalize rural economies to create opportunities for growth, support innovative technologies, identify new markets for ag producers, and better use natural resources.

America imports just over half its transportation fuels – down from 60 percent when President Obama took office – but we can do more to meet the President’s goal of reducing our net fuel imports by one-third by 2025.

USDA is working to develop the national biofuels industry that produces energy from non-food sources in

## Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 50. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 32. Tomorrow, mostly sunny. High 50, low 33.

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

every region of the country. USDA is conducting and encouraging research into innovative new energy technologies and processes, helping companies build biorefineries – including the first ever commercial-scale cellulosic ethanol facilities – and supporting farmers, ranchers, and businesses taking risks to pursue new opportunities in biofuels. In partnership with other Federal agencies, USDA is establishing an aviation biofuels economy, and has expedited rules and efforts to promote production and commercialization of biofuels.

USDA’s Biorefinery Assistance Program was authorized by Congress under the 2008 Farm Bill. It provides loan guarantees to capitalize on the growing opportunities in renewable energy provided by advanced biofuels. The Program is designed to assist with the commercial deployment of production technologies to produce advanced biofuels, and thereby increase the energy independence of the United States; promote resource conservation, public health, and the environment; diversify markets for agricultural and forestry products and agriculture waste material; create jobs and enhance the economic development of the rural economy.

Rural Development has more than 40 programs that foster growth and economic stability in rural areas by providing affordable financing and technical assistance. Support is available for regional food systems, broadband and biofuel infrastructure, homeownership, business development and community needs. More information on USDA Rural Development programs is available on the web at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/il](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/il).

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