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Lourdine Florek, owner

**Thursday, September 20, 2012**

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication

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

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## Health Department: norovirus blamed for illness outbreak

An outbreak of an illness after the Labor Day weekend was not food borne according to a Vermilion County Health Department official.

The health department received a stool sample from one of the approximately 16 people who were affected. The state laboratory said the sample contained a norovirus, said Doug Toole, health department director of environmental health.

Those who were ill reported vomiting and diarrhea with a few also reporting low-grade fever.

Norovirus is usually spread by people who fail to wash their hands after using the bathroom. "This is not the type of virus that's going to originate on

food," Toole said.

Many of those who were ill reported eating food from a local restaurant; however, the diagnosis rules out the restaurant as the cause.

Toole said the common factor of the restaurant could be a coincidence or that someone carrying the virus could have touched the doorknob, which would have passed the virus to subsequent people touching the same doorknob.

Norovirus can survive for 12 hours on hard surfaces and up to 12 days on contaminated fabrics.

Remnants of virus may also stay in a person's system for several days but, fortunately, symptoms are short-lived. "The nicest thing you can say about this stuff is it leaves the system pretty fast," Toole said, adding most of those who complained of the virus suffered its effects for about a day.

## Weather



Mostly sunny today. High 73. Tonight, cloudy. Low 46. Tomorrow, chance of showers. High 70, low 45.

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

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### HELP WANTED

Busy chiropractic office needs a team oriented, multi-tasking, and dependable person. Candidate must be super on telephone and detail oriented. Computer experience is a must. This is a part-time position with the potential of full time. Send resume to Box A, c/o Just the Facts. P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942.

Busy chiropractic office needs a professional and energetic person to fill the position of Practice Representative. Person will be responsible for, but not limited to, interaction and networking with businesses to promote public relations activities for the office. This is a part-time position with the potential of full time. Send resume to Box A, c/o Just the Facts. P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942.

### LOST & FOUND

LOST: small grey and white dog with tan legs - dark brown and black spots. One blue eye and one brown. Her name is Jipsi. If you see her, please call (217) 597-8769.





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