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Just the Facts®
Tuesday, November 12, 2013

Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
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State rep. Josh Harms votes 'no' on gay marriage bill

On November 5, the Illinois General Assembly passed Senate Bill 10, same sex marriage. The legislation passed the House with 61 votes and the Senate with 32 votes.

State Rep. Josh Harms (R-Watseka) voted "no" on the measure, citing his belief in traditional marriage between one man and one woman. "I am disappointed that the State of Illinois has now redefined marriage by allowing gay couples to marry," Harms said. "I still firmly believe that marriage is a religious institution between one man and one woman."

Harms said the bill does not protect any private citizen with religious objections; businesses will be forced to host, cater, or otherwise serve gay weddings even if their religion forbids it. Legislation is being drafted to try and institute these necessary protections to ensure that no one is forced to go against their faith.

"I will continue to fight for traditional marriage and the rights of those individuals and businesses that have religious objections to gay weddings," he said.

State Sen. Jason Barickman (R-Bloomington) was the
See MARRIAGE on other side

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Police News

Timothy E. Coon Jr., 35, of Hoopeston, was arrested after a hit-and-run accident at 11:58 p.m. Sunday at BJ's Pump, 1023 W. Main.

Police said Coon left the business after an altercation, got into a 1999 Jeep and allegedly hit a parked 2008 Dodge Ram owned by Markus Davis, of East Lynn. Police said Coon left the scene but later turned himself in.

He was ticketed for reckless driving, leaving the scene of an accident and no insurance and was released on notices to appear in traffic court.

Marriage continued from other side

only Republican to vote for the bill during its first vote on February 14. He voted in favor again when the measure was returned to the Senate last week.

The bill now goes to Governor Quinn who announced Thursday that he will sign it November 20.

Illinois will become the 15th state to affirm gay marriage. The law will go into effect on June 1, 2014.



Standing up for America

Scores of Hoopeston Area students stand for the Pledge of Allegiance at Monday's Veterans Day ceremony at Hoopeston Area Middle School gym. The program featured Hoopeston Area High School's senior chorus and band, as well as speeches. Hoopeston American Legion and VFW Color Guard was on hand for the service, which honored local veterans.

Court Dispositions

September 5

Gerardo Torres, Hoopeston, new status hearing October 3.

Susie Wisdom, Hoopeston, new status hearing November 7.

Holly Baker, Hoopeston, new status hearing November 7.

Weather

Chance of flurries today. High 34. Tonight, clear. Low 19. Tomorrow, sunny. High 39, low 24.

Classifieds

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