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 Lourdine Florek, owner

Just the Facts®
Thursday, February 6, 2014
 Hoopeston's only locally-owned daily news publication
 P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston, IL. 60942 www.justthefacts.net

Local legislators respond to Quinn's state of state speech

Illinois is better than it was five years ago, Gov. Pat Quinn said in his state of the state speech January 29, but not as good as it's going to be.

Quinn outlined the difficulties he inherited, including corruption, a pension crisis and fiscal issues, detailing what he did to fix them and laying out a five-year plan focusing on job creation and increased spending on education, as well as raising the state's minimum wage.

To create more jobs, Quinn said he would add a small-business advocate to his staff and would slash a fee to start a limited liability business. He also wants to focus on early education and prenatal care, double the number of needs-based monetary scholarships for college students, invest in a new center for medical technology startups in Chicago and double the earned income tax credit.

Quinn did not address several issues, including where the money to increase education funding would come from; the state's ongoing pension problems; and the temporary income tax hike that is set to expire. Those issues are expected to be topics in Quinn's budget address on February 19.

Both state Sen. Jason Barickman (R-Bloomington) and state Rep. Josh Harms (R-Watseka), weighed in on Quinn's speech.

"While Governor Quinn and I both have a vision for Illinois filled with more good-paying jobs, lower debt, and quality schools, we differ greatly on our paths to get our state there," Barickman said.

"Since becoming Governor, Pat Quinn has increased taxes by 67% on every family in Illinois, he has increased spending and exploded our backlog of unpaid bills. What we heard today in his address was more of the same: he wants to tax more, borrow more, and spend more.

I believe Illinois should be a place in which job crea-

tors have an easier time creating new, good paying jobs that raise up the middle class. We should have a low tax base that provides for more jobs that help fund an effective, efficient government, and better schools.

Pat Quinn should stop relying on more taxes and more spending and start trying to make Illinois a place that can grow."

Harms said the Governor's refusal to lead has driven Illinois into the ditch. "A recent Moody's analysis has ranked Illinois as dead last in the country for job creation and we have the second largest outward migration out of any state; citizens are leaving at an alarming rate," Harms said.

"We must start to build a stable tax environment and eliminate the constant threat of increased taxes. Illinois is the transportation hub of the nation; we have great infrastructure, and a workforce that is second to none; the only thing holding Illinois back is bad government. The people of Illinois want jobs, good paying jobs, not just more rhetoric out of the governor."

Quinn, who is seeking reelection this year, also drew fire from Democratic challenger Tio Hardiman, and Republican hopefuls Bill Brady, Kirk Dillard, Bruce Rauner and Dan Rutherford

Masonic Lodge 709 AF & AM
Chili & Hot Dog Supper
Saturday, Feb. 8 4-7 p.m.
\$5 per person
Proceeds for Lodge repair & upkeep
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Gibson City hospital CEO named to inaugural '50 Rural Hospital CEOs to Know' list

GIBSON CITY—Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services is pleased to announce that CEO Rob Schmitt, FACHE, FHFMA, has been named on the inaugural list of "50 Rural Hospital CEOs to Know" by *Becker's Hospital Review*.

According to the monthly publication, which offers hospital-related business and legal news content, "these 50 presidents and CEOs have shown commitment to providing high-quality, accessible care to their patient populations and have approached the challenge of rural healthcare with great [assurance]."

The list defined "rural" as being located outside a major metropolitan area or healthcare hub. In addition to Gibson Area Hospital's qualifying rural location, Schmitt was selected on a number of factors including hospital awards received; local, regional and national leadership positions held; and their organization's recent performance.

Under Schmitt's leadership, GAHHS was the sole recipient of the Quality Award from the National Rural Health Association in 2013, and is the only critical access hospital in the nation with 100 percent of its emergency room nurses certified in emergency medicine, according to the hospital.

Schmitt joined GAHHS in 2002 as CFO and was promoted to CEO in 2007. He is on the board of directors with the Illinois Hospital Association, a Fellow with Healthcare Financial Management Association, and has served as president of many other boards and organizations over his tenure.

Acknowledging the recognition, Schmitt said, "I am blessed to work at one of the best Critical Access Hospitals in the country. I am blessed with an excellent ad-



SCHMITT

ministrative team in Robin Rose, Mike Meunier, and John Jacobson. GAHHS has a responsible, forward thinking board of directors who set strategy and policy and allow administration to run the organization. I am proud and honored to work with our award winning medical staff. Primary care is the life blood of rural healthcare, and our primary care base is the foundation that the organization builds its success on. Our physicians are true leaders in rural healthcare. And GAHHS is blessed to have the outstanding community support we have from all of our volunteers, foundation and the many communities we serve. We are proud to be their healthcare provider of choice, and I am lucky to be a part of that opportunity to serve."

Becker's Hospital Review noted that individuals cannot pay for inclusion on this list. Two other CEOs were

Fire Calls



Hoopeston Fire Department was called at 6:10 p.m. Tuesday to the 900 block of Sprague for an activated carbon monoxide detector. The monitor was defective. No injuries were reported.

Obituaries

BOLIN - Ephraim H. Bolin, 89, of Rankin, died Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2014, at Heritage Health, Hoopeston. Graveside service will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Rankin Union Cemetery with military rites by Cissna Park American Legion. Knapp Funeral Home, Rankin, is in charge of arrangements.

Weather



Wind chill advisory through noon today. Cold today. High 4, low -9. Tomorrow, partly sunny, chance of snow late. High 13, low 2.

recognized from Illinois, Maureen Kahn, RN, MSN, president and CEO of Blessing Hospital (Quincy); and Brad Solberg, CEO of Hammond-Henry Hospital (Geneseo).

Classifieds

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Newer cozy 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in a 4-Plex. All appliances included. Full basement (not for sleeping). Walking distance to shopping. Hook-up for washer and dryer. Yard. Handicapped accessible. Available now. \$475 +deposit. References checked. No Pets. (217) 260-2546.

HELP WANTED

Part-and full-time help needed in Autumn Fields' kitchen. FSSC a plus! Apply in person at 325 E. Orange, Hoopeston.

Crop Production Services Cissna Park, IL is looking for seasonal truck drivers. Must have CDL or means to obtain before starting work. For more information call 217-375-4275 or visit 289 N 1700 East Rd Cissna Park, IL 60924

Mustard Seed Christian Daycare has opened enrollment for the 2014 Winter and Spring for children 18 months-12 years. We offer full day childcare plus preschool curriculum and before and after school care with homework help! Emergency drop in care available. We participate in the US Department of Education Child and Adult Food Program. DHS/CCAP/subsidy accepted. Contact Nicole Gregory or Terri Bemis for more information, 217-748-6370, or e-mail mustardseed.christiandaycare@gmail.com

Do you enjoy meeting and talking to new people? Our 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 F c/o Just the Facts, P.O. Box 441, Hoopeston IL 60942.

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SERVICES

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VFW Menu
 Orange & 4th Ave., Hoopeston
Wednesday Wings
 5-8 p.m. 50¢ each
Thirsty Thursdays & Tacos 5-8 p.m.
 \$1.25 domestic beers, \$2 imports
NFCC Fish Fry Fridays 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Come out and support your VFW!